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Friday, March 19, 1976
Phalguna 29, 1897 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Sixteenth Session)



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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No 9, Friday, March 19, 1976 Phalguna 29, 1897 (Saka)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March 19, 1976/Phalgun
28, 1897 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

कपड़ा-मिलों का आधुनिकीकरण

† 161. श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या
बाजिधर मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा
करेंगे कि

(क) सरकार द्वारा अपने अधिकांश
नी रखी मरटग्रन कपड़ा मिलों में से
कितनी कपड़ा मिलों का प्रगत आधुनिकी-
करण किया जा चुका है ; और

(ख) उनमें से कितनी मिलें बढ़िया
कपड़ा का उत्पादन कर रही हैं ?

बाजिधर मंत्री (श्री
विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) (क) : मरटग्रन उपक्रम
(राष्ट्रीयकरण) अधिनियम, 1974 के उप-
खण्ड के अधीन राष्ट्रीयकृत की गई 103 मख
मिलों में से सरकार ने अभी तक 98 मिलों को
वास्तविक रूप में अपने नियन्त्रण में ले
लिया है। 87 मिलों के सम्बन्ध में आधु-
निकीकरण कार्यक्रम मंजूर किया गया है।
9 मिलों में आधुनिकीकरण के प्रथम चरण
को पूरा कर लिया है और बाकी मिलों में
स्वीकृत आधुनिकीकरण कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन
को विभिन्न अवस्थाओं में है।

2042—L.S.—1

(ख) 20 मिलें फाइन तथा सुपरफाइन
किसमो के कपड़ों का उत्पादन कर रही हैं।

DR. RANEN SEN: Mr. Speaker, Sir,
question No. 178 pertains to the same
subject and so both may be taken up
together.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

National Textile Corporation

*178. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the
Minister of COMMERCE be pleased
to state:

(a) whether Government have re-
viewed the working of National
Textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the main features there-
of, and

(c) the total loss suffered by N.T.C.
in 1974-75 and 1975-76 (upto March,
1976)?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A comprehensive review is
made every month with a view to
bring about improvement in the work-
ing of the textile mills under the
charge of the National Textile Corpora-
tion. All possible avenues of maxi-
mizing utilisation of capacity and pro-
ductivity and effecting economies in
purchase of raw materials, stores and
accessories are considered. Reviews
made recently indicate improvement
in financial results leading to reduc-
tion in monthly rate of losses.

(c) The total losses suffered by na-
tionalised mills during 1974-75 are

about Rs. 34.59 crores. The losses in 1975-76 (upto Jan. '76) are estimated to be about Rs. 53.30 crores.

श्री मूलबन्ध डाया : प्लानिंग और डिबैलेपमेंट टैक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री का जो विभाग है वह तो आपने पास है और एडमिनिस्ट्रेंटिव जो रिसर्पासिबिलिटी है वह इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्ट्री की है, यह कंसा को-ओर्डिनेशन है? यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया है। यह तो आपके घर की बात हुई। लेकिन यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आई है।

आपने अपने उत्तर में कहा है :—

"modernisation programme has been sanctioned in respect of 87 mills."

87 मिलों के जो आपने माडरनाइजेशन करने के प्लान बनाए हैं उनमें आज तक कितना खर्च हो गया है, एक एक प्लांट पर कितनी कितनी धनराशि खर्च होगी? आपने जो मिलें अपने कदमों में ली हैं उनको आपको कितना सुझाव देना पड़ा है या आप देंगे? जिन मिलों का माडरनाइजेशन आपने कर दिया है क्या वे सब चल रही हैं और कितनी धनराशि इन पर खर्च हो चुकी है?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It is not true that administration and policy matters are now split in two Ministries. Both are with the Commerce Ministry and this apprehension of the hon Member may be dispelled.

Regarding the amount spent on modernisation, NTC has already sanctioned a modernisation programme in respect of 87 undertakings to the tune of Rs. 61.43 crores. Out of the amount Rs. 21 crores worth of machinery has already been installed and commissioned.

Regarding compensation, a Compensation Commissioner is to be appointed and on his appointment the compensation will be finalised.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: He has not answered my question. If you cannot protect us, I do not know what to say. I do not think he has given the reply. He has said that modernisation programme has been sanctioned in respect of 87 mills and 9 mills have completed the first phase of modernisation

MR. SPEAKER: You ask another question.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I can give details of all the 87 mills, if he wants.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: I do not want those details. I want a specific answer to my question.

103 में से 98 मिलें जो आपने अपने कदमों में की हैं उनको आपने कम्प्लेशन कितना दिया है . . .

एक अनौपचारिक सवाल : अभी कमीशन बंठता है।

श्री मूलबन्ध डाया : यहां कहा है कि "first phase of modernisation has been completed".

कितनों का फर्स्ट फेज पूरा हो चुका है और ये जिनने फेज हैं ये सब कब तक पूरे होने की सम्भावना है? कितनी उन में से चल चुकी हैं? कोई चली है या नहीं चली है या सब चल चुकी हैं?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It is given in the answer itself. There are 9 mills in which the first phase has been completed.

DR. RANEN SEN: When these sick textile mills were taken over, did Government make any assessment of the nature of the mills that were being taken over? If so, what steps were taken to modernise them? Secondly, are the losses only due to the fact that the machinery was outmoded and outdated or is it also a fact that NTC only started manufacturing standard cloth, which is one of the reasons why losses were incurred?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Of course, an assessment was made while taking over all the mills. The assessment was that these are sick mills and they are unable to run. Assessment of their assets, total machinery etc. was made. To the loss, of course, outdated machinery is a contributory cause. As far as standard cloth is concerned, it is known that there is a loss element in the production of control cloth and that was also a burden on the mills.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: In view of the huge losses NTC is suffering, the major problem being utilisation of the cloth and the traders holding the Corporation to ransom, can you not think of having orders from other public sector undertakings like Railways, Coal Mines, Steel Authority, Police Force, Defence Force, Hospitals, etc. where your cloth can have a good market. The Government being the biggest buyer they can purchase your cloth and give support to another public sector undertaking to survive. Why do you want there also a competition to be introduced?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, as for huge losses, they have been of a large magnitude. But it is encouraging to note that while the losses in April 1975 were of the order of Rs 7.5 crores, now in January, the loss is of the order of Rs. 3.5 crores. Sir, the cotton prices are to continue, but the other steps that have been taken are like centralised purchase of cotton and other products from public sector undertakings like C.C.I. and Maharashtra Marketing Federation. We have also taken various steps like modernisation, etc. Now I will come to your main question. A very important suggestion was made to cut the trade channels and come directly in contact with the consumers and also to sell the products to the public sector organisations. Sir, the N.T.C. is making every effort in this direction and is also in touch with the Defence to sell its products so

that the trader, the middle man can be eliminated. The N.T.C. has also taken steps in opening up show-rooms at various places and about 500 show-rooms will shortly be opened.

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Before taking over the sick mills and before paying the compensation to any of the mill owners, it was promised that the workers' arrears, their earned wages, their leave wages, their bonus and everything would be regularised and settled. So far as I know in so many mills nothing has been settled and this question was discussed at the apex meeting also. I would like to know how long are you going to take to settle these arrears of the workers so that they will be comfortable and they will be able to help you in increasing the production and maintaining the mills in a better manner.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The main delay on this account has been the delay in the appointment of a Compensation Commissioner who would go into the terminologies and other details. The difficulty was that we had selected one person but then he was not available. I hope that a Compensation Commissioner will be appointed soon and all these claims will be settled and payments will be made.

श्री राम सिंह भाई: क्या यह बान मही
नै कि जिन मिलों का आधुनिकीकरण कर
लिया गया है, आज भी उनका वास्तु आफ
प्रोडक्शन अथिस्ट आने के कारण, निजी
क्षेत्र के मुकाबले में उनमें नुकसान हो
रहा है ?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, I would not generally agree to this because some of the mills in the N.T.C. are making profit even now.

श्री राय सिंह भाई : किन 9 मिलों का प्राथमिकीकरण किया गया है, मैंने उनका करे में पूछा है।

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, comparison from mill to mill or taking it even in the private sector, there is a cross-section of mills. Some are doing well, some are losing, some are making profits. If the hon. Member could identify from whom to compare, we can get a standard of comparison. But if you look at the overall picture, the N.T.C. mills are improving in their performance and there are positive indications for that.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: From the Minister's answer it appears that out of a total amount of Rs. 61.3 crores allotted for modernisation, Rs. 21 crores have already been spent for bringing machinery etc. Only 9 mills have been modernised and 87 mills still remain to be modernised. Does it mean that Rs. 21 crores have been spent only on these 9 mills? If not, may I know how much has been spent on modernising these 9 mills? Can the Minister guarantee that if all these mills are modernised, the NTC will not be facing losses as it is now? Is it a fact that management of the NTC mills has not materially changed from what it was when they were taken over?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: When I said that 9 mills have been completed in the first phase, that does not mean that in others no modernisation has taken place. In fact, this money has been spread over all the mills. For the NTC (Delhi, Punjab and Rajasthan) the outlay sanctioned was Rs. 332.10 lakhs out of which Rs. 152 lakhs worth of machinery has already been received. For the NTC (Madhya Pradesh) Ltd. out of Rs. 423.84 lakhs sanctioned, Rs. 201.7 lakhs worth of machinery has already been received. For NTC

(UP) Ltd., out of Rs. 410.15 lakhs sanctioned Rs. 106 lakhs worth of machinery has been received. . . .

MR. SPEAKER: You need not give all these details.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: As for future losses, I hope the subsidiaries in Delhi, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, U.P., Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala will soon come out of the red in a short time. There have been changes in management. There is a personnel policy for recruiting and training people in NTC. That is why the rate of losses has come down.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: How does he say that the losses are coming down?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: That is the correct position

Functioning of Cotton Corporation of India

+

*162 **SHRI VASANT SATHE,**

SHRI SARJOO PANDEY,

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether profits of the Cotton Corporation of India have been shrinking year after year during the last three years with reduced quantity of cotton purchased as compared to the targets assigned;

(b) if so, the figures thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to make the functioning of Cotton Corporation more effective in the cotton economy of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)

(Rupees in crores)

| Year | Turnover | Net Profit (before tax) | Net Profit (After Tax) |
|-----------|----------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1972-73 . | 116.59 | 5.04 | 1.08 |
| 1973-74 . | 91.61 | 3.18 | 0.58 |
| 1974-75 . | 35.51 | 1.88 | 0.68 |

(c) Cotton Corporation of India has been directed to purchase cotton wherever prices fall below support level, and to effect purchases for the National Textiles Corporation. For these purposes, a credit of Rs 20 crores, has been sanctioned.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is seen from the statement that the turnover of this corporation came down from 116.59 crores in 1972-73 to Rs 35.51 crores in 1974-75. The purchases came down from 5 lakh bales in 1971-72 to a dismal figure of 31,905 bales in 1974-75. Is it a fact that both the National Commission on Agriculture and the Committee on Public Undertakings had unanimously recommended that if the purpose for which the Cotton Corporation of India was established is to be achieved, i.e., to ensure remunerative price to the farmers and stabilise cotton prices, as a part of the general policy, 25 per cent of the year's crop should be purchased by the Cotton Corporation. If this purpose is to be served, have you considered these unanimous recommendations and what are the reactions of the Government to ensure that the funds are made available to the Cotton Corporation of India?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: It is correct that the total purchase effected by the Cotton Corporation in the year 1974-75 is less than what it was in the previous year. The cause

is that the Cotton Corporation of India carries on support price operations. Since the ruling price in the last year, I mean the current cotton year, is much higher than the statutory minimum price, therefore, the Cotton Corporation of India is not required.... (Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: What is the statement of objectives of the Cotton Corporation of India? Will you re-produce the statement of objectives?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The first question was whether the quantum purchased is less; I said, yes, because the price is ruling higher than the statutory minimum. Now, to the second question, my response is—I am reading from the objectives of the Cotton Corporation of India—to carry out support operation when necessary so that growers get a reasonable remuneration and their interest in cotton production is maintained to carry out support operations. Further, we have to re-concile the remunerative price requirements for the cotton growers with the reasonable price requirements for the cloth consumers. The balance has to be struck and I am sure the eminently reasonable Member will agree with me. That is the objective that we are following. I am aware of the recommendations of the National Agriculture Commission and Committee on Public Undertakings.

They are really food for thought. A decision has yet to be taken.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The hon. Minister has just now said that the objective is to balance the remunerative price with the price of cloth. I would like to know from him, whereas the fall in cotton price to the farmer has dropped by hundred per cent, has it been reflected in the cloth price of any variety? Has ever there been any relationship between the cotton price and the cloth price in the his-

tory of cotton production in this country? It is only the middle-men and the mills who are benefited. Even in 1970-71 when the prices fell rock bottom, was the Cotton Corporation performing this function of maintaining parity between the prices of cotton and cloth?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I find from the figures that the cotton price has fallen but I do not find that it has fallen cent per cent.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: By what per cent?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: It cannot be said because it differs from variety to variety. (Interruptions).

I say, he is a very well informed Member and deeply in touch with the cotton growers. So far as Varalakshmi is concerned, the support price announced by the Government on the basis of the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission consisting of very competent and expert people, is Rs. 320 per quintal.

The National Agricultural Commission is the competent body he has referred to.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: He is the one who knows next to nothing about cotton prices

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I am sorry to disagree with the Member on this point.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, let him complete. Otherwise we will go on discussing.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The support price announced by the Government for Varalakshmi variety is Rs. 320. The ruling price is Rs. 454. (Interruptions) For NCU-5, the ruling price is Rs. 435; but the support price is Rs. 310. (Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I had asked him; by how much has it fallen from last year's ruling price? He is telling me what is the difference between support price declared by the Commission and the ruling price. Is it not misleading?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I would say that it is not misleading, because I have quoted that the purpose of the Cotton Corporation is to carry on support operations. This is the support price announced by the Government; as regards ruling price and the difference... (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: It is all right. Shri Sarjoo Pandey.

श्री सरजू पांडे श्री वसंत साठे ने बताया है कि जिस अनुपात में रुई का दाम गिरा है, उस अनुपात में कपड़े का दाम नहीं गिरा है। काटन कार्पोरेशन आफ इंडिया सारी रुई नहीं खरीद रहा है और तमाम वाटन-ग्रेजर्स मुसीबत में पड़े हुए हैं। इसको देखते हुए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है कि काटन-ग्रेजर्स को सपोर्ट प्राइस मिल सके? सरकार ने थंडे में रुपये की व्यवस्था की- है। सूचना यह है कि काटन का कोई खरीदा दार नहीं है और काटन-ग्रेजर्स का माल सन्त होता चला जा रहा है, लेकिन उनके अनुपात में कपड़े का दाम नहीं गिर रहा है। मंत्री महोदय ने माननीय सदस्य के प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं दिया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार कपड़े का दाम गिराने के लिए क्या प्रयास कर रही है और किमानों की रुई का दाम मेंटन करने के लिए कौन से नये कदम उठा रही है।

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Sir, to this question, my response is that the cloth mill owners have not reduced the cotton cloth price proportionately to the reduction in cotton price. This point is valid. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't; no interruptions please.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: This is the fact. Now, to remedy the situation, we have appointed a very high-level committee consisting of the Textile Commissioner, the Managing Director of the Cotton Corporation, as also some people from Nagpur, a particular research institute who are looking into this problem and who have (Interruptions) highlighted these things. (Interruptions). Let me finish.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't disturb him. Otherwise he will not be able to finish.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: (Interruptions) Listen to me first. So, this high-power committee, which includes representatives from the public sector undertaking and some research institutes who are looking into this problem, has brought to our notice these things. By the end of April, this committee has been asked to submit the report. This is essential to bring about a sort of rational parity and linkage between the cotton price and the cloth price. That is what we are doing.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Indrajit Gupta, No. 7 Mr K. Gopal

SHRI K. GOPAL: I would like to know whether it is a fact that there is no machinery at all with the Government to determine the cost of production in relation to the price of cotton and the price of cloth; and that the Government depends entirely on the figures supplied by the ICMF.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: We have some figures and facts available, both from the ICMF as also from the Textile Commissioner; but recently we have asked the Department of Company Affairs; and in pursuance thereof, the Department of Company Affairs have issued a notification in terms of which every textile unit will be required, quarterly, to submit all

the figures pertaining to the subjects that have been discussed here now.

Pay Scales of Clerical Staff of Nationalised Banks

*163. **SHRI B. R. SHUKLA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing pay scales of the clerical staff of nationalised banks; and

(b) the pay scales of clerical staff serving in the Reserve Bank of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE & BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The existing pay scales for clerks in nationalised banks and Reserve Bank of India are as given below:—

(i) Nationalised banks:

Rs. 170—10—200—13—226—14—
240—15—285—20—345—25—420—
30—480—35—550 (20 years).

(ii) Reserve Bank of India:

Rs. 210—10—240—15—330—20—
410 — EB — 25 — 460 — 30 —
520 — 35 — 590 (20 years).

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: According to the statement supplied by the hon. Minister, the initial pay of clerks of nationalised banks is Rs. 170 and the maximum goes up to Rs. 550, while the initial pay of the clerks of the Reserve Bank of India is Rs. 210 and the maximum goes up to Rs. 590. May I know whether there are any differences in the requisite qualifications for recruitment to the two categories of clerks and also whether there is any basic difference in the nature of work performed by them?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: By and large, the qualifications and the job requirements are the same. But the difference in the pay scales at the initial stage is mainly because of the fact that the employees in the nationalised banks and other banks are entitled to have bonus—even after the new enactment, they are entitled to have *ex-gratia* payment—while the employees of the Reserve Bank are not entitled to have the same. But the dearness allowance formula is more or less the same and the total emoluments they get, the total pay packet at the end of the month, is more or less on par.

Schemes formulated by Nationalised Banks to rehabilitate freed Bonded Labourers

*165. **SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the schemes formulated and implemented by each of the nationalised banks to rehabilitate the freed bonded labourers in each State and Union Territory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Most of the nationalised banks and other public sector banks have formulated and are implementing schemes for providing financial assistance to released bonded labourers to take up some gainful occupation like agriculture, dairy, poultry, cottage industry, small business, etc. Under these schemes 100 per cent finance is generally provided without insisting on any margin or security on the basis of group guarantees. Wherever borrowers are eligible for finance under the DIR scheme, loan is provided at 4 per cent interest and in other cases concessional interest rate varying between 10 per cent and 12 per cent is charged.

SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: It is clear from the answer given by the Minister that all the nationalised banks

are not implementing the scheme for the rehabilitation of the freed bonded labour. May I know whether the Government have issued any guidelines to all the nationalised banks to make provision for giving loans to these bonded labour and, if so, how is it that some of these banks are not implementing this scheme?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: All the nationalised banks ought to implement these schemes. At the meeting which I had with the Chief Executive Officers of the nationalised banks, this particular point was highlighted. At the same time, I would admit that the performance of the nationalised banks in this field are not up to our expectations. We are trying to see in what way we can improve the services, so far as the implementation of this programme is concerned. We have already taken it up not only with the Chief Executives of the nationalised banks but also with the Chief Ministers when there was a meeting of the Chief Ministers recently. Further, a committee has been appointed specially to look into the requirements of rural credit, and the Committee is going to submit its report shortly. After that, we will take up the other follow-up action.

SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: I find from the answer that there are two rates of interest charged—4 per cent and 10 to 12 per cent. Since the bonded labour come from the poorest of the poor class, may I know whether there is any proposal to give them loan free of interest?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: There is one basic question here. Firstly, the assistance of the banks should be available for the rehabilitation of the persons concerned. Therefore, when a man is freed from serfdom, he has to be provided with certain facilities by which he can rehabilitate himself in the society. Four per cent interest rate is applicable to those districts where the differential rate of interest scheme is

prevailing. In fact, there are 325 districts in the country where this interest rate is available. And for several other types of assistance, the interest rates vary from 10 to 12 per cent which I have indicated in my reply. As to giving loans without interest, that is a matter on which I cannot reply offhand here.

SHRI D. BASUMATARI: There is a report that as many as 23,000 people have been freed from bonded labour. May I know what steps have been taken, whether any scheme has been drawn up, to rehabilitate them?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I have indicated in the reply that there are various schemes like sheep breeding, poultry farming etc. If the hon. Members are interested in knowing the details as to which banks have taken up what types of schemes and how many people are being provided with assistance, I will be glad to give that information to them.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: I am glad to learn of the steps which Government have taken to help the bonded labour which has been freed. I hope the Minister is aware that in the rural areas the nationalised banks have a distance limit of 8 k.m. for extending credit facilities. If so, may I know how these people who are dispersed all over the countryside are going to be covered by this assistance? Is there any proposal to do away with this distance limit?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: In the rural areas there are three agencies providing credit to the rural population, namely the branches of the commercial banks, co-operative societies and the new established regional rural banks, but we do admit, and I have said it on many occasions on the floor of the House, that in spite of our total effort, there is a big gap and it is our constant effort to see in what way we can bridge that gap (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

Sick Tea Gardens

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*169. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:**
SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had decided to take over the management of sick tea gardens;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (c). Steps have been taken to introduce a Bill in the current session to amend the Tea Act, 1953 to provide for taking over management of sick tea gardens.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What about parts (b) and (c) of the question?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: So far as the broad features of the Bill are concerned, I would like to say . . .

MR. SPEAKER: Will it not be in the Bill?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Yes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Then I cannot ask any question because everything will be in the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: Has the Bill been introduced?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: No. We have approached the Lok Sabha Secretariat for giving time for its introduction. Steps have been taken to introduce it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He was going to indicate the broad features when you stopped him.

MR. SPEAKER: Can you give the broad features?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I can give the broad features of the recommendations of the Committee on the basis of which this Bill has been framed, but not necessarily reflecting what is in the Bill. So, I have answered this question in a different form. I can briefly indicate not what is in the Bill but what is in the recommendations of the Committee.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: That we know.

I would at least seek some confirmation or contradiction from him of various press reports which have appeared so far. Of course, I welcome the fact that there is going to be a legislation, long long overdue. I would like to know whether Government is thinking of providing for the take-over of the actual management of these taken-over tea gardens by the Centre or by the respective State Governments within whose jurisdiction those gardens are located? There is also a report to the effect that Government proposes that after these sick tea gardens have been nursed back to health, they would be handed over to the original owners. I want to know what is the position regarding these two important matters.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: About the second position, I would like to submit first that there is no idea of the Government to hand over all the gardens after nursing them back to health. As regards the first point, our view is that if the State Governments set up some corporations which are competent to look after these gardens—as there is one, for instance, in Assam—we will be glad to entrust responsibility to them. But where there are no such organizations, we will entrust responsibility to some other public sector corporations, and if necessary, suitable private sector corporations as well.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Even before this legislation has seen the light of day, we find that quite considerable financial assistance being provided by Government to many of these tea gardens, particularly those which are located in what is called zone 3. Now, I would like to know how much money has been given to these tea gardens, private tea gardens during the last three years, and on what account, they have been given and for what purpose? I would also like to know whether Government has got any kind of machinery or any monitoring system to know exactly how these tea garden owners have been spending that money?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The question is on the management of the sick tea gardens and the proposed take over of the same. The question which the hon. Member has asked pertains to the money given, the quantum given and the purpose for which it is given. I will be glad to answer the question if a separate notice is given.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Since the Minister had just now stated that these tea gardens will be taken through a legislation in the current session, may I know from the hon. Minister whether Government has taken sufficient care to look into the matter. Already, there are some sick units which are in the list and the management of the units have started withdrawing important machinery and plants, including the diesel engines. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of it and is keen to take over the units? May I know whether the Government will immediately make security arrangement to prevent the possibility of things being destroyed? Since the Government is taking the management of those gardens, may I know from the Government whether the employees belonging to those gardens—in the secretariat cadre, in the managerial cadre—will be protected by a legislation?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Appropriate steps are being taken to see that the remaining assets of the closed tea gardens are not taken away or misused or plundered in any way. Secondly, I would say, yes, that the labour and other staff of the closed mills would be given first preference for absorption when they are re-opened.

DR. RANEN SEN: A little while ago, the hon. Minister had stated the three positions, that is, either the State Governments will form a corporation and take them over or the Central Government may take them over or a private tea garden corporation will take them over. May I know, in this connection, whether it is a fact that some tea garden owners are trying to form a corporation and are trying to pressurise the Government so that Government falls in line with them and hand over those tea gardens after their having been modernised? I want to know whether it is a fact or not? I also want to know whether such a proposal is before the Government or not?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: This is not a fact. The question of pressurising is absolutely unfounded and Government is not amenable to such pressures. My colleague, the Minister, a few minutes ago, had stated that we have taken over more than 100 mills. So, if we could resist pressure, if there is any, at all in the textile sector, we are quite capable of resisting pressure, if any, elsewhere. But the point is that a private sector company has been formed. They are ready to take the responsibility on no-profit-no-loss basis. This is one of the alternatives. We have applied our mind and our approach is quite flexible.

MR. SPEAKER: Next Question.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: The Minister has already said that there is a private sector

corporation and they may think of that alternative. This is a game of the tea garden owners in that area. I hail from that area. It is their trick. We wanted to have a categorical answer but the Government could not give.

Trade Fairs

*171. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign countries where 'Trade Fairs' were organised during the year 1975-76;

(b) the total amount, in term of foreign exchange earned or orders received by India in those trade fairs; and

(c) whether Government propose to hold any international trade fair in the country in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) During the year 1975-76, Indian Trade Exhibitions and participation in International Trade Fairs were organised in the following 17 countries by the Directorate of Exhibitions and Commercial Publicity and the Indian Council of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions: Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Dubai, France, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Libya, Poland, New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

(b) According to reports received from the participating firms, orders amounting to about Rs. 259 million were secured at these exhibitions and fairs.

(c) The question of holding International Trade Fairs in the country is under examination.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Since the answer to part (c) of my Question is in the affirmative, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is possible to specify a time-limit by which the International Trade Fair can be held in our country.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: It will not be possible to specify a time-limit as the matter is still under examination.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: In the International Trade Fairs in which we participate, organised in many countries, as the hon. Minister just now said, may I know what are our indigenous items, capital goods or otherwise, which have attracted the minds of foreigners and have earned foreign exchange?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: All goods.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: What are the particular items which have attracted the minds of foreigners?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: There is a very wide range of items in which the foreigners are interested, right from sophisticated engineering goods to handicrafts.

Development of Puri Sea-Beach as a Tourist Resort

*172 **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS**

SHRI D. K. PANDA:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a possibility to develop Puri sea beach as a tourist resort linking Puri-Konark through Marine Drive; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). Having

regard to the limited financial resources, the efforts of the Central Department of Tourism are concentrated for the present in developing those beach areas on which work has already been initiated, namely Kovalam, Goa and Mahabalipuram.

After assessing the effectiveness of beach tourism in these places the Department of Tourism would consider opening of new areas for development as beach resorts.

श्री अनादि चरणदास : अध्यक्ष जी, मेरे सवाल का जो जवाब दिया गया है वह हमारे लिए कोई ख़ुशी की बात नहीं है। उड़ीसा तो बैसे ही पीछे है, इस प्रकार से उसको और पीछे रखना चाहते हैं। मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है उसमें कहा है कि कोबलम, गोवा, महाबलीपुरम आदि स्थानों पर टूरिस्ट कॉम्प्लेक्स बनाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं तो फिर उड़ीसा में जहाँ पर ब्रह्माण्ड पुरी, भुवनेश्वर आदि स्थान हैं वहाँ पर टूरिस्ट कॉम्प्लेक्स बनाने में क्या कठिनाई है? मंत्री महोदय क्यों टननी काँझमी तरफ़ है।

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारी कतई इच्छा नहीं है कि उड़ीसा को पीछे रखें। मैंने जवाब में कहा है कि हमारी कठिनाई रुपए पैसे की है, अगर रुढ़या पैसा हो ना तब हम इस स्कीम का टेक्निक करेगे।

श्री अनादि चरणदास : क्या आपने कोबलम में पुरी की बीच में सड़क बनाई है, यदि बनाई है तो कितनी बनाई है तथा उस पर कितना पैसा खर्च किया है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : सड़क की बात इनमें न पड़िये।

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Hon Speaker, Sir, we know the constraints on our resources, particularly as far as the Ministry of Tourism is concerned.

But just as our hon. Finance Minister has shown us the way, if you are short of Departmental funds, why don't you try this extremely bankable proposal of building the infrastructure for a tourist resort and bringing in various hotels and other things so that not only the resources problem can be solved but, if you look at it from the point of view of other benefits, you will find that there are hundreds of other tourist places including many of the beaches in the district of North Konark. Why don't you take the support of the nationalised banks?

MR. SPEAKER: He is suggesting a way out

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: We can consider it. It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: The hon. Minister gives us the idea that as they have taken up two to three tourist centres like Kovalam and Goa, they cannot at present take up Puri-Konark. I would like to know from the Minister the time when the proposal for Kovalam and Goa was routed from the Department. This was a recent proposal whereas the proposal for the development of Puri-Konark—which is one of the best places in eastern India and in fact, the whole of India, which attracts thousands of foreign tourists—had gone to the Government a number of times during the last five to seven years and the State Government has been repeatedly requesting the Central Government to assist in this project. If this is correct, may I know from the hon. Minister whether at least in this year or next year they will take up this proposal for consideration and also try to consult the State Government so that the project can come up in collaboration?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: There appears to be some confusion. There are two projects: one in regard to the development of a beach resort

in Puri and the other in regard to the development of Konark-Bhubaneswar. As far as the beach resort is concerned, I have replied that we are at present not in a position to take up this project because we have three more projects of a similar nature and we want to assess the success of these projects before we take up a fourth one. As far as the development of Bhubaneswar-Konark-Puri is concerned, that area is being developed by the Central Government and a master plan is being prepared. We are fully in touch with Orissa Government, in regard to the development of that area.

Trade between India and Iraq

*173. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:

SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held with Iraqi Foreign Trade Minister recently on the future pattern of trade between India and Iraq;

(b) whether any agreement has been reached; and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) to (c) During the visit of the Minister of Foreign Trade of Iraq to India in February 1976, a review of trade between the two countries took place. It was agreed that there was considerable scope for increasing trade, particularly in the area of non-traditional items and that steps should be taken to achieve this. No formal agreement was, however, signed during this visit.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: May I know from the hon.

Minister whether an Indo-Iraqi Joint Commission is being proposed and also whether that Joint Commission between India and Iraq will take up joint ventures in third countries?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: We have already an Indo-Iraq Joint Commission and that Commission will be in session in the last week of this month. Joint ventures with third countries is a very important item and it will be discussed at the meeting.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: When you have admitted in your statement that there is a very big scope for trade between the two countries, may I know the reasons why no agreement has been signed between the two countries?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: This is simply a matter of formality because we have an agreement already. Another agreement is going to be signed at the end of the conclusion of this discussion to be held in the last week of this month.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: The hon. Minister has just stated that there is no agreement but, in spite of that, negotiations took place. May I know what are the things that were being exported from our country before these negotiations, like blades, etc.?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: We are exporting mainly engineering goods and we are getting some oil from that country. Just now, at the moment, a delegation of Project and Equipment Corporation, State Trading Corporation, Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation, Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation and Delhi Small Industries Development Corporation are visiting that country. From the names of the organizations, the hon. Member can guess the areas and the items of interest for our Iraqi friends.

Calicut Airport

*174. **SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for the construction of an airport in Calicut in the plan outlay for 1976-77; and

(b) if no amount is sanctioned, the reasons for delay in taking a decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The project for the construction of an aerodrome at Calicut was included in the draft Fifth Five Year Plan. However, due to increase in the cost of operation consequent on hike in prices of aviation fuel and also to their tight fleet position, Indian Airlines had to review their plans and found themselves unable to operate to Calicut in the Fifth Plan period. The project had therefore to be postponed and no provision has been made in the Annual Plan outlay for 1976-77. Nevertheless, it is proposed to pursue the proposal subject to availability of resources.

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: From the hon. Minister's answer, it is understood that no provision has been made in the Plan outlay for 1976-77. May I know when the construction work of airport at Calicut will be commenced and by what time it will be completed?

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied that it would be pursued when the resources position is better.

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: May I know the expenditure to be incurred for the construction of airport at Calicut and the States with which Calicut will be connected by air and the revenue likely to be made after that?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH:
I can give the expenditure incurred so far by the Department of Civil Aviation and the State Government in acquiring land, fencing, etc., the expenditure has been of the order of Rs. 26 lakhs. But the entire project has been frozen for the time being; it will be taken up when the Indian Airlines are in a position to start a service to Calicut.

SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA: I am told that Safari Airways are going to have an air link between Calicut and Cochin from Birla airstrip by Dakotas. I am sure the Dakotas will be unpopular and then Government will come forward with the argument that the Calicut Airport is not popular. May I get an assurance from the hon Minister that, even if Safari Airways operate Dakotas there, the statistics will not stand in the way of taking up the Calicut airport?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: Some private operators like Safari Airways and one or two others have shown some interest in starting a service to Calicut. For that purpose, we are thinking of developing and improving the existing airstrip at Chilaria—I think, that is what the hon Member mentioned. The proposal is under the consideration of the Department.

Export of Sugar, Cotton and Potatoes

*175. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI:**

SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of sugar, cotton and potatoes in 1975-76 was a record;

(b) if so, the figures thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to encourage export of other agricultural products and processed foods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):
(a) and (b). Export statistics for the whole year 1975-76 are not yet available. However, as per present indications, exports of sugar, cotton and potatoes are likely to reach a record level.

(c) The Government's endeavour is to encourage the exports of agricultural products and processed foods to the best extent possible, depending on production, availability for export, prices of the commodities and other factors.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: I would like to know from the hon Minister what is the actual assessment of the Ministry with regard to export of sugar in the current year and also who are the important buyers of our sugar?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: This year we are expected to export 1037 lakh tonnes of sugar fetching Rs 422.29 crores. Our importers are various countries like Iran and Egypt and some other parties who are not directly giving to some countries but are distributing to other countries. Many countries of Asia and Europe are taking our sugar, and we have a very good market.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Cost of Production of Indian Tea

*164 **SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:**
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of production of tea is higher in India as compared to the other international producers; and

(b) whether India is likely to lose its dominating position in the international tea market due to the increase in price of tea?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). Precise figures relating to cost of production of tea in various countries are not available for comparison. However, tea prices all over the world appreciated substantially in 1974 including that of Indian Tea. This has in no way affected India's share in world tea export which is about 30 per cent.

Stoppage of U.S. Aid to India

*166 SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.A. has decided to stop aid to India; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). Government have seen reports that the U.S. Government does not propose resuming aid to India this year. There has been no American bilateral development assistance to India since 1972, nor has the Government of India asked for it. It is not our policy to base our relationship with the U.S. or any other country, on the concept of aid, but rather on self-reliance. It is for the U.S. to decide whether or not they would offer aid to other countries.

Constitution of Non-official Consultative Committees to supervise Distribution of Loans

*167. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is constituting non-official Consultative Committees in order to supervise the dis-

tribution of loans to weaker sections of the people in the country; and

(b) if so, the guide lines and composition thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to constitute non-official consultative committees in order to supervise the distribution of loans to the weaker sections of the people in the country. However, the question of associating non-officials with District Consultative Committees, set up under the Lead Bank Scheme, has been under the examination of Government and the Reserve Bank following a recommendation in that regard by the Estimates Committee of Parliament. It has been decided that besides continuing association of non-officials in some of the District Consultative Committees in some States where it is already obtaining, in other States non-officials having specialised expertise in critical sectors of rural economy may be associated on an experimental basis with the District Consultative Committees in one district in each State.

ग्रामक व्यापार निगम द्वारा ग्रामक का निर्वाह

†168. श्री शंकर बहाल सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या ग्रामक व्यापार निगम ग्रामक व्यापार में गतिरोध समाप्त करने और उसका निर्वाह बढ़ाने हेतु कोई प्रयास कर रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका स्वीकार क्या है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपर्युक्त (जी निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव सिंह): (क) जी हां।

(ख) मुख्य रूपसे निम्नोक्त प्रकार है :—

- (1) अन्नक के उत्पादन-निर्यात को बढ़ाने के लिए अन्नक के निर्यात के लिए न्यूनतम कीमतें संशोधित की गई हैं ;
- (2) अन्नक खरीदने तथा उसे साधित करने के लिए अन्नक व्यापार निगम ने नए एकक खोले हैं ताकि अच्छी किस्म के अन्नक की सप्लाय सुनिश्चित हो सके ;
- (3) निगम अन्नक की नियमित रूप से खरीदारियां कर रहा है ;
- (4) अन्नक की खरीद के सम्बन्ध में निगम कमजोर वर्गों को प्राथमिकता देता है ;
- (5) सरकार ने निम्नलिखित के बारे में मुझाव देने के लिए अन्नक सलाहकार समिति गठित की है.—

(क) अन्नक का उत्पादन तथा निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए ; और

(ख) साधित और विरचित अन्नक के विकास, अन्नक आधारित उद्योगों के संवर्धन तथा अन्नक उत्पादों के निर्यात के लिए ।

Meeting of Heads of Public Sector Banks

*170. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY:

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the heads of public sector banks was held in

February, 1976 mainly to chalk out a programme of action for speedy implementation of the 20-point Economic programme and to review the progress made by rural banks; and

(b) if so, the conclusions reached and programme chalked out thereat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE & BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b). A meeting of Chief Executives of public sector banks was held at New Delhi on February 24, 1976. The meeting reviewed the measures taken by the banks so far and proposed to be taken by them to assist the beneficiaries of the administrative and legislative actions taken by Government in pursuance of the 20-Point Economic Programme, particularly measures connected with the extension of credit to weaker sections in the rural areas.

The review emerging from the meeting indicated that since the announcement of the Twenty Point Programme, public sector banks, besides intensifying implementation of their on-going schemes of assistance to agriculture and other neglected sectors of the economy, have endeavoured to evolve bankable schemes for landless labourers, especially those released from bondage and given surplus land, rural artisans and handloom weavers. Establishment of close liaison between the administrative authorities and the banks at various levels, quick identification of the beneficiaries of the Programme, formulation of specific schemes, both by the State Governments and the commercial banks for meeting the requirements of these people for production advances, setting up of regional rural banks and strengthening of cooperative structure at the grass-root level for facilitating increased flow of credit to the critical sectors, are some of the areas to which attention is now being devoted both by State Governments and the banks to

enable the later to play adequately their part in the implementation of the 20-Point Economic Programme.

Time Schedule of Flights in Indian Airlines

*176. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether even after emergency Indian Airlines has failed to keep the time schedule of its flights in a big way; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure time schedule and efficiency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) No, Sir. The 'On Time Performance' during the six months period July to December, 1975 was 68.15 per cent. taking into account all delays and cancellations including those due to bad weather, as compared to 67.82 per cent during the first six months of 1975.

(b) Every effort is being made by the Corporation to improve their 'on time performance'. However in view of the over-riding considerations of safety the Indian Airlines has to take special care to ensure that no undue risks are taken in its operations, particularly in the face of circumstances beyond its control such as adverse weather conditions etc

Development of Tourist Centres in North-Eastern Region

*177. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the steps taken and aid given for development of tourist centres in the North-Eastern region during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): Due mainly to the restrictions on the entry of foreigners into the North-Eastern region, international tourism has not developed as rapidly in this region as in other regions. Within the limitations of resources, however, tourism schemes were taken up at selected centres in this region in the Central Sector. These included the construction of a Tourist Bungalow at Gauhati, a Youth Hostel at Darjeeling, provision of transport and expansion of existing Tourist Bungalow at Darjeeling and the construction of Forest Lodges at Kaziranga and Jaldapara. Selected places of tourist interest in this region are also covered in the tourist literature brought out by the Department of Tourism.

A statement showing the various schemes taken up in the North-Eastern region in the Central Sector and the expenditure incurred during the last 3 years is attached

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | Name of Scheme | Expenditure incurred | | |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|---------|---------|
| | | 1972-73 | 1973-74 | 1974-75 |
| ASSAM | | | | |
| 1 | Tourist Bungalow at Gauhati | 2.00 | 1.75 | 2.20 |
| 2 | Forest Lodge at Kaziranga | 2.60 | 2.93 | 2.93 |
| WEST BENGAL | | | | |
| 1 | Extension of Tourist Lodge at Darjeeling | .. | 2.61 | 2.00 |
| 2 | Construction of a Rest House at Jaldapara | 0.85 | 1.15 | 2.16 |
| 3 | Youth Hostel at Darjeeling | 0.20 | 2.08 | 1.50 |
| 4 | Provision of two jeeps for tourists in Darjeeling area | 0.82 | .. | .. |
| | | 6.47 | 10.52 | 10.79 |

Opening of Regional Rural Banks in the Country

*179. SHRI CHANDRA SHAILANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional rural banks opened all over the country so far under the 20-point economic programme; and

(b) the time by which regional rural banks are likely to be opened in the areas where such banks have not so far been opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE & BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Eleven Regional Rural Banks covering nineteen districts have been set up so far. A study is being undertaken to identify areas which, while having good development potential for agriculture are inadequately served by commercial banks and where cooperatives are comparatively weak. Priority will be given to these areas in establishing further Regional Rural Banks during the current financial year.

Measures to tighten Smuggling Activities

*180. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent smuggling activities have come down as a result of tightening of measures in the current year;

(b) the areas still considered vulnerable for this activity and steps taken to exercise more vigilance; and

(c) what other measures are under consideration to eliminate the incentive for smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE & BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) All indications are that smuggling

has gone down considerably as a result of Government's anti-smuggling drive. Even while the incidents of seizures have been maintained or stepped up, the value of goods seized per month has fallen and the prices of smuggled goods have generally gone up in the clandestine markets, indicating markedly reduced inflow of contraband into the country. Similarly, the inward remittances of foreign exchange, excluding remittance against exports and aid, through regular banking channels have registered an upward swing suggesting fall in the demand for foreign exchange for illicit operations. Intelligence reports have also confirmed that smuggling activities towards India have diminished considerably.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The areas declared as vulnerable under Section 9 of COFEPOSA ACT, 1974 are still considered vulnerable to smuggling activities. Some of the steps taken to exercise more vigilance against smuggling are as below:—

(a) COFEPOSA ACT, 1974 has been strengthened from time to time and several persons have been detained preventively

(b) The Customs Preventive machinery has been strengthened with more staff, sophisticated speed-boats imported from Norway, more vehicles, arms and ammunition and wireless networks in vulnerable areas. Vessels confiscated from smugglers have also been appropriated and put to use.

(c) Frequent raids have been made in centres known for marketing smuggled goods and searches and seizures have been stepped up.

(d) Extensive and regular patroling of the sea and intensive

patrolling of coastal areas, suspected landing points, as also feeder roads have been organised.

- (e) Intelligence set up has been geared up for better collection and pursuing of intelligence reports.
- (f) The passports of various individuals involved in smuggling have been cancelled.
- (g) Action has been initiated for confiscation of smugglers properties under the smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976
- (h) Payments of rewards to informers have been stepped up to encourage them to bring in more information on smuggling.
- (i) The Baggage Rules and provisions regarding notified goods under the Customs Act are being enforced more rigorously.
- (j) The Customs authorities are pressing for refusal of bail by magistrates and also going up in appeal against grant of bails as also low punishments
- (k) Steps have also been taken to wean the public away from the craze of foreign goods so that the demand for smuggled goods may go down. A documentary film is being produced to educate the public on the ill-effects of smuggling activities. Publicity has also been given to the results of raids, arrests etc. to create an impact on the public
- (l) Better co-ordination has been established among the various enforcement agencies such as, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Income-tax, Foreign Exchange Enforcement Directorate as

also with the State Governments.

- (m) Administrative measures have also been taken, such as weeding out the undesirable elements by transfer, premature retirement, disciplinary action, etc. and for encouraging the honest and efficient.

Some of the further measures which are under the consideration of the Government include—

- (1) Setting up of special courts and provision of summary trials for economic offences;
- (2) Amendments to the Customs Act and other allied Acts to strengthen the legal framework;
- (3) Further improvement of the intelligence and investigation machinery;
- (4) Creation of more supervisory posts for more effective supervision of the anti-smuggling work, and
- (5) Deployment of more vessels and vehicles

As anti-smuggling drive is a continuous process, the various measures are under constant review

Ceiling on interest rates

880 SHRI A. K. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India is considering a ceiling on interest rates, and
- (b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Effective from March 15, 1978, the Reserve Bank of

India has prescribed the maximum interest rate on bank lending at 16.5 per cent, inclusive of the levy by way of tax on interest incomes from advances. The ceiling also applies to the rate of discount on bill finance.

Advances against sensitive commodities subject to selective credit controls are exempted from the operation of ceiling rate of interest. It also does not cover penal rates of interest on irregular accounts.

The ceiling rate of interest is not applicable to banks with demand and time liabilities of less than Rs. 25 crores. Banks with demand and time liabilities between Rs. 25 crores and Rs. 50 crores are allowed to charge a maximum of one per-centage point higher than the ceiling rate of 16.5 per cent.

The stipulation of the ceiling rate of 16.5 per cent is also applicable to foreign banks operating in India, irrespective of the size of their deposits

तम्बाकू, खनिज तेल, तथा बिजली के उपकरणों के मूल्य

881. डा० लक्ष्मीनाराण पांडेय : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वर्ष 1974-75 की अपेक्षा वर्ष 1975-76 के दौरान तम्बाकू, कोयला, खनिज तेल, बिजली के उपकरणों तथा यातायात के उपकरणों के मूल्य सूचकांक में काफी वृद्धि हुई है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसे रोकने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री सी० सुब्रह्मण्यम्) :
(क) नीचे की सारणी से यह पता चलता है कि कोयले की कीमतों को छोड़कर 1974-75 के मुकाबले 1975-76 में बाकी सभी

चीजों की कीमतों में औसतन बहुत कम वृद्धि हुई। कोयले के मामले में भी 1975-76 में मूल्य-वृद्धि 1974-75 के मुकाबले में कम थी —

| धोक कीमतों के सूच- कांक में प्रतिशत घट- बढ़ | | |
|---|------------|--------|
| (अप्रैल-फरवरी औसत) | | |
| 1973-74 1974-75 | | |
| की तुलना में की तुलना में | | |
| 1974-75 | 1975-76 | |
| में वृद्धि | में वृद्धि | |
| तम्बाकू | + 22.6 | + 4.5 |
| कायला | + 28.4 | + 26.0 |
| खनिज तेल | + 75.0 | + 5.2 |
| बिजली की मशीनें | + 31.1 | + 10.2 |
| परिवहन उपकरण | + 30.8 | + 6.5 |

(ख) 1974-75 में सभी वस्तुओं के मूल्य सूचकांक (अप्रैल-फरवरी) में हुई 14.3 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि के मुकाबले 1975-76 (अप्रैल-फरवरी) के दौरान 2.9 प्रतिशत की औसतन कमी हो गई। इस प्रकार कीमतों का बढ़ने में रोकने के सम्बन्ध में सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदम कारगर सिद्ध हुए हैं। लेकिन किसी एक वस्तु के मूल्य में वृद्धि उसकी लागत में वृद्धि के कारण हो सकती है। उदाहरण के तौर पर, कोयले के मामले में जनवरी 1975 में उसकी प्रशासनिक मूल्य में वृद्धि करनी पड़ी, क्योंकि कोयला उद्योग में मजदूरी संबंधी एक करार किया गया जो जनवरी 1975 में लागू हो गया।

Development of Digha as a Tourist Centre

882. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Digha in West Bengal is the only sea-resort outside Orissa, available for easy reaches by people of Eastern Region of India;

(b) whether during 1975 figures of visitors to Digha have increased and if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether lack of facilities at Digha hinder its further development as a tourist attraction;

(d) if so, whether Digha is proposed to be put on the Central tourist map and necessary steps taken for its development as a tourist centre; and

(e) if so, the specific steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). India has a vast variety of places of tourist interest including beach areas. The Department of Tourism does not maintain tourist statistics place-wise. Hence no figures of visitors who visited Digha during 1975 are available with the Central Department of Tourism.

(c) to (e). Having regard to the limited financial resources, the Department of Tourism has had to adopt a selective approach in determining priorities for the development of tourist centres/areas. The Department of Tourism is concentrating for the present in developing those beach areas on which work has already been initiated namely Kovalam, Goa and Mahabalipuram. After assessing the effectiveness of beach tourism in these places, the Department of Tourism would consider opening of new areas for development as beach resorts.

Unit Linked L.I.C. policies

883. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unit linked L.I.C. policies are economical than ordinary L.I.C. policies and yet the total business under the former is very much less than the latter;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to popularise the former and if so, the broad features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) (a) and (b). Unit linked insurance policy is a single policy issued by the Life Insurance Corporation of India to the Unit Trust of India covering all Unit-holders subscribing under its Unit linked Insurance Plan. It offers cover only in the event of death within 10 years. This is not comparable to the individual assurances issued by the Life Insurance Corporation of India under which the conditions and benefits are different.

(c) Publicity for the Unit linked Insurance Plan is undertaken by the Unit Trust of India. This includes issue of brochures and press advertisements.

Collection, under Small Savings Schemes

884. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for each one of the States and Union Territories for small savings schemes during the years 1973-74, 1974-75 and 1975-76 (upto December, 1975);

(b) the actual collection under the small savings scheme made by each of the State/Union Territories during the above period; and

(c) whether the States and Union Territories which have exceeded the targets have given any prizes or incentives and if so, the names of the States and the incentives given?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). Though the Government of India have not fixed targets for total small savings collections State-wise, the States & the Union Territories fix their targets themselves.

(c) States which exceed the All India ratio for net to gross collections are given incentives. Similarly, States which exceed the targets for personal collections are given additional loans.

मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटन केन्द्रों का विकास

885. श्री भारीराम मंवर : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में कौन-कौन से पर्यटन केन्द्र हैं और उनके विकास के लिये किस प्रकार के प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं ,

(ख) क्या माडव, खजुराहो, अजन्ता तथा ऐवोरा में पर्यटकों को सुविधायें प्रदान करने की कोई नई योजना है, और

(ग) यदि हा, तो उसकी मुख्य रूपरेखा क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र कल सिंह) : (क) पर्यटक केन्द्रों का विकास उनकी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों में वर्तमान प्रवृत्त सभावित लोकप्रियता के आधार पर निर्धारित किया जाता है। इसे दृष्टि में रखते हुए खजुराहो, सांची, भोपाल तथा कान्हा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों के लिए सुविधाओं की पहल्वी ही व्यवस्था की जा चुकी है। मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटन योजनाओं पर 1974-75 के दौरान केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में किए गए व्यय तथा 1975-76 के दौरान समभावित व्यय को दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण संलग्न है।

(ख) और (ग). सीमित साधनों तथा परिस्थितियों में कटौती के कारण, पर्यटन विभाग मध्य प्रदेश में केवल खजुराहो तथा भोपाल में ही सुविधाओं के विकास पर अपने प्रयत्न केन्द्रित कर रहा है। केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग का 1976-77 के दौरान खजुराहो में एक शिविर स्थल स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव है। भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम का पाचवी योजनावधि के दौरान 50 लाख रुपये का अनुमानित मागत में भोपाल में एक 100 भट्ठाओं वाले भोपाल का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव है।

अजन्ता, ऐवोरा तथा माडव में केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में किन्हीं नई स्कीमों को दाय में लेने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

विवरण

| क्रम | स्कीम का नाम | वार्षिक व्यय | प्रस्तावित व्यय |
|--------|----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| संख्या | | 1974-75 | 1975-76 |
| | | रु. ए. | रु. ए. |
| 1 | खजुराहो में पानी का प्रबन्ध | 2,40,000 | 75,000 |
| 2 | सांची में पानी का प्रबन्ध | 70,000 | |
| 3 | कान्हा किपनी में पानी का प्रबन्ध | 60,000 | |
| 4 | श्री नाल में युवा होस्टल | 30,000 | 74,000 |
| | कुल | 4,00,000 | 1,49,000 |

बिहार में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों की शाखाएँ]

386. श्री जलेश्वर प्रसाद यादव : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि बिहार में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों की कितनी शाखाएँ हैं और इन शाखाओं द्वारा दिसम्बर, 1975 तक निम्न प्रायः वर्ष के क्रान्तों को जिलेवार कितनी रकम के ऋण दिये गये ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रबोध कुमार मुन्शी) : 31 दिसम्बर, 1975 की स्थिति के अनुसार बिहार राज्य में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों सहित, सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों की संख्या 873 है।

2. आकड़े सूचित करने की वर्तमान प्रणाली में "निम्न प्रायः समूह के कृषिों को ऋण" वाली विविध श्रेणियों में दत्त ऋणों के वर्गीकरण की व्यवस्था नहीं है। फिर भी सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों द्वारा बिहार राज्य में दिसम्बर 1974 के अन्त तक मजूर किये गये और बताया कुल गति श्रमियों के विशिष्ट आकड़े नीचे निम्न अनुसार हैं —

(लाख रुपये)

| जिला | दिसम्बर, 1974 की बकाया श्रमियों की स्थिति |
|----------|---|
| आरमबाद | 3.46 |
| बेगुसराय | 15.12 |
| भागलपुर | 44.86 |
| भोजपुर | 35.25 |
| दरभंगा | 65.37 |
| छनबाद | 4.18 |

| जिला | दिसम्बर, 1974 की बकाया श्रमियों की स्थिति |
|-----------------|---|
| पूर्वी चम्पारन | 86.19 |
| समस्तीपुर | 39.36 |
| मिर्जापुर | 0.31 |
| गोपालगंज | 7.37 |
| हजारीबाग | 6.87 |
| कटिहार | 21.03 |
| मधुबनी | 5.38 |
| मुंगेर | 53.53 |
| मुजफ्फरपुर | 114.83 |
| नालंदा | 80.09 |
| नवादाह | 14.52 |
| पालामु | 12.36 |
| पटना | 273.95 |
| पूणिया | 205.98 |
| रांची | 61.22 |
| रोहतास | 78.35 |
| सहरसा | 77.17 |
| समस्तीपुर | 26.85 |
| सबल परगना | 23.88 |
| भारत | 79.26 |
| सिन्धु | 9.97 |
| सिन्धु | 32.93 |
| सिन्धु | 34.95 |
| सिन्धु | 50.28 |
| पश्चिमी चम्पारन | 142.31 |
| जोड़ | 1707.18 |

Equalisation of prices of raw cotton and freight for raw cotton transport

887. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of equalisation of prices of raw cotton and freight for raw cotton transport had been entrusted to the Planning Commission for detailed study;

(b) whether the Commission has made its recommendations in this regard; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to implement these recommendations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

औद्योगिक विकास के कारण पर्यटन केन्द्रों को क्षरता

888. श्री जनेश्वर बिन्द : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या देश में तेज गति में हो रहे औद्योगिक विकास के कारण बहुत से पर्यटन केन्द्रों को खतरा उत्पन्न हो गया है,

(ख) ऐसे मुख्य पर्यटन केन्द्र कौन हैं ;

(ग) क्या उद्योग मंत्रालय ने उनके मंत्रालय को इस बारे में कोई रिपोर्ट दी है ; और

(घ) इस बारे में क्या कार्रवाई की गई है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश चाल सिंह) : (क) और (ख). तेल-शोधक कारखानों तथा अन्य विशाल उद्योगों के प्रदूषक तत्वों से पर्यटन रुचि के ऐतिहासिक स्मारकों के प्रतिकूल रूप से प्रभावित होने की संभावनाओं के बारे में आशंकाएँ व्यक्त की गई हैं। पर्यटन विभाग इस समस्या के प्रति जागरूक है और यह मायला संबंधित प्राधिकारियों के साथ उठाया गया है। मधुरा के निकट प्रभावित तेल-शोधक कारखाने के वायुप्रदूषण द्वारा जिन स्थानों के प्रभावित होने की आशंका है वे आगरा तथा उसके आस-पास स्थित ऐतिहासिक स्मारक हैं।

(ग) और (घ). पैट्रोलियम मंत्रालय ने सूचित किया है कि जहाँ तक मधुरा तेल-शोधक कारखाने का संबंध है, सरकार ने परियोजना प्राधिकारियों को इस बात का परामर्श देने के लिये, कि प्रदूषण को किस प्रकार सर्वथा न्यूनतम रखा जाये तथा प्रदूषण के प्रति क्या उपचारी कार्यवाही की जाये, विशेषज्ञों की एक समिति नियुक्त की है। समिति समय-समय पर सरकार को अपने विचार-विप्लव से अवगत रख रही है।

पाँचवीं योजना के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश के शहरों का विमान सेवा से सम्पर्क स्थापित किया जाना

889. श्री नुकुम चन्द कछवाय : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) पाँचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में मध्य प्रदेश के कौन-कौन से शहरों का विमान सेवा से सम्पर्क स्थापित किया जायेगा;

(ख) राज्य के किन-किन शहरों में हवाई पट्टी तथा उड़ानों से सम्बन्धित अन्य कार्य धारण कर दिये गये हैं और इन पर

केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा राज्य सरकार द्वारा वृक्ष-वृक्ष कितना व्यय किया जायेगा; और

(ग) पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में किन-किन राज्यों से नया विभिन्न राज्यों के किन-किन प्रमुख शहरों से विमान सम्पर्क स्थापित हो जायेगा और इससे कितनी आय का अनुमान है तथा मध्य प्रदेश से अन्य राज्यों को कितनी उड़ानों की जायेगी।

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) और (ग). इंडियन एयरलाइन्स क्लिहाल मध्य प्रदेश में भोपाल, ग्वालियर, इंदौर, खजुराहो और रायपुर के लिए हवाई सेवाओं का परिचालन कर रही है। पांचवीं योजना अवधि के दौरान कार्पोरेशन की मध्य प्रदेश के किन्हीं और नगरों को हवाई सेवा से जोड़ने की कोई योजना नहीं है।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश में भोपाल और खजुराहो के हवाई अड्डों का विकास कार्य प्रगति पर है जिसकी कुल लागत 86.61 लाख रुपये होगी। जबलपुर और खजुराहो में कुछेक कार्य लगभग 24 लाख रुपये की लागत से हाल ही में पूरे किए गए हैं। इन परियोजनाओं से सम्बन्धित पूरा व्यय केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा वहन किया जा रहा है।

मध्य प्रदेश में बहुरानपुर से 'पावरलूम' कपड़े का निर्यात

890. श्री गंगाधरन बीक्षित : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बुरहानपुर 'पावरलूम' कपड़े का केन्द्र है और वहां से पावरलूम का कपड़ा निर्यात किया जाता है ;

(ख) वर्ष 1974-75 के दौरान ऐसा कितने मूल्य का कपड़ा निर्यात किया गया; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार इसके लिये कोई निर्यात संवर्धन योजना बनाने का है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपस्थित (श्री विद्यनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क). बुरहानपुर पावरलूम कपड़े के उत्पादन का केन्द्र है और इससे उत्पादन का कुछ भाग निर्यात किया जाता है।

(ख) 1974-75 के दौरान देश से पावरलूम के कपड़े के कुल निर्यात 3.10 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य के होने का अनुमान है।

(ग) मिल निमित्त कपड़े के लिये जो निर्यात संवर्धन योजनाएं हैं वही पावरलूम कपड़े पर भी लागू होती हैं।

Agricultural Loan given to S.C. and S.T. Applicants by Nationalised Banks in Nasik District of Maharashtra

891 SHRI Z. M. KAHANDOLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications were received from persons belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, by all the branches of the nationalised banks viz Dena Bank, Punjab National Bank, Bank of Baroda, Bank of Maharashtra and also the State Bank of India, in Nasik District of Maharashtra during 1973-74 and 1974-75 for loans for agricultural and other purposes;

(b) the amount sanctioned on these applications, and

(c) how many of these applications were rejected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The information, to the extent possible, is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Export of Fish

892. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the value and quantity of fish exported from the coast of Karnataka in 1975-76 (upto date) portwise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Mangalore is the only port of shipment for Marine products in Karnataka. 3945 tonnes of Marine products valued at Rupees 788 lakhs were exported from this port during the period April, 1975 to January, 1976.

Industrial potential survey sponsored by RBI in Andhra Pradesh

893. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the industrial potential survey sponsored by the Reserve Bank of India and six other banks in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so the broad outlines thereof and what action is proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b). A joint institutional study team comprising representatives of the Industrial Development Bank of India, the Reserve Bank of India the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation, the Andhra Pradesh State Financial Corporation, the Syndicate Bank and Andhra Bank Limited conducted an industrial potential survey of Andhra Pradesh.

The survey was carried out with a view to identifying project ideas, in the light of the availability of raw materials, infrastructure facilities, market potential etc. which can be implemented over a period of next 5 to

10 years. A Screening Committee consisting of representatives of the Industrial Development Bank of India, the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, the State Bank of India, the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation, the Andhra Pradesh State Financial Corporation, the Andhra Pradesh Small Scale Industrial Development Corporation and State Directorate of Industries, was set up by the State Inter-Institutional Group to screen and suggest suitable priorities for implementation. The Screening Committee has selected 130 projects of which 89 are projects identified by the Survey Team. These projects are being followed up for implementation by the State Inter-Institutional Group.

Development of Handloom Industry in Tamil Nadu

894. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved a master plan for the development of Handloom Industry in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) and (b). A programme for spearhead development of handloom industry in Tamil Nadu, as in other States, has been taken up. A part of the programme will be financed by the State Government through its Annual Plan. In addition, Government of India would be providing funds for special schemes and institutional finances will also be drawn upon. Two special schemes have already been approved for Tamil Nadu—an Export Oriented Production Project covering 1,000 handlooms in the Karur area and Intensive Development Project covering 5,000 handlooms each in Erode and Kancheepuram areas.

Loan from International Development Association for Minor Irrigation Works

895. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U. P. Agricultural Credit Agreement of U.S. \$ 38 million was signed with I.D.A. on 8th June, 1973 to finance a 3 year programme of farmers investments in minor irrigation in the Eastern U.P.;

(b) the amount earmarked to be disbursed in Faizabad District under the Scheme;

(c) whether all the money is likely to be disbursed by 7th June, 1976 when the agreement period of 3 years expires; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and particular steps taken to ensure quick disbursement of the amount to farmers and how do Government proposes to ensure the full utilisation of the IDA amount?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No amount has been earmarked for Faizabad Distt. as such but it is one of the 14 Districts, covered under the Project,

(c) and (d). The closing date of the agreement is 31st December, 1976, it is expected that the disbursement will be completed by that time.

Setting up of Hotels by I.T.D.C.

896. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been undertaken to gauge the changing traffic pattern of tourists and adequate steps taken to contain the rising cost of transport and accommodation; and

(b) the steps India Tourism Development Corporation has taken for setting up two-star or three-star

hotels which would be reasonably cheap and within the reach of a large number of vacation-travellers as distinct from business travellers or high income tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) The Department of Tourism maintains on a regular basis, a record of foreign tourist arrivals by different modes of transport, air/sea ports of disembarkation, age group, sex, etc. Bulletins issued monthly, quarterly, half-yearly and yearly bring out the changes in the tourist traffic pattern as compared to the previous year. In addition, the annual publication "Tourist Statistics" gives the trend analysis of the data for the previous five years.

With a view to catering to the transport and accommodation requirements of lower and middle income groups of tourists, the ITDC is concentrating its efforts on augmentation of its fleet of tourist coaches and also on development of medium priced accommodation,

(b) In the Fifth Five Year Plan of the ITDC, the emphasis is on the construction of hotels/motels of the 2-3 Star category which would meet the accommodation requirements of low and middle income groups of tourists.

करणों का व्यवस्थापन

897. श्री जूल्की राज सैनी : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में लेखावाह्य राशि और दोहरे लेखों से कारोबार होता है और करों का व्यवस्थापन किया जाता है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार का विचार इसे किस प्रकार रोकने का है ; और

(ग) 26 जून, 1975 को घोषित की गई आपातकालीन स्थिति के बाद ऐसा कारोबार करने वाले किन्ने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये हैं ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रमोद कुमार मुकुर्मी) : (क) से (ग). लेंबा बाह्य धन से तथा दोहरी लेंबा बहियाँ रख कर चलाये जा रहे व्यापार कार्यों का पता विशेषतः तलाशियों और अभिग्रहण कर्मचारियों के कारण चला है। लेंबाबाह्य धन का पता लगाने और उसे खतम करने का काम एक सतत प्रक्रिया है। इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार, निवारक तथा दण्डक-दोनों प्रकार के उपाय जैसे श्री आवश्यक होते हैं समय-समय पर करती रहती है।

प्रत्यक्ष कर कानूनों में इस प्रकार की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है कि लेंबाबाह्य धन से तथा दोहरे हिसाबों से व्यापार चलाने वाले व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किया जाय परन्तु हाल ही में अधिनियमित कराधान कानून (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 1975 में, आय/ धन छिपाने संबंधी कर अपराधों के लिए अधिक कठोर-दण्डों की व्यवस्था की गयी है।

Accommodation provided to Managers and Assistant Managers of Hotels

898. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of accommodation (suites) being provided to the Managers and Assistant Managers of Public Sector Hotels;

(b) the annual expenditure being incurred by Government on them;

(c) the number of times they are allowed to visit abroad; and

(d) the particulars of the foreign visits of the Managers and Assistant Managers of Public Sector hotels on the invitation of foreign Governments, foreign agencies or when sent by the Government of India during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) A statement (Annexure-I) giving particulars of accommodation (suites) being provided to the Managers and Assistant Managers of hotels owned and operated by the India Tourism Development Corporation, a public sector undertaking, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10473/76].

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) There is no fixed number of times that Managers/Assistant Managers of the India Tourism Development Corporation's Hotels are allowed to visit abroad. These visits depend on the exigencies of public service.

(d) A statement (Annexure-II) giving the particulars of foreign visits of Managers/Assistant Managers of India Tourism Development Corporation's hotels on the invitation of foreign Governments, foreign agencies or when sent by the India Tourism Development Corporation during the year 1974-75 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT /76].

Profit earned by Indian Airlines

899. SHRI N. K. SANGHI. Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has made an all time profit during 1975-76;

(b) if so, what factors have contributed towards this;

(c) whether there is scope for further rationalisation; and

(d) whether it is possible to maintain the rate of profit during the next year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) According to the trend revealed by the financial estimates for the first 10 months of 1975-76, the Corporation is likely to end up with a profit of Rs. 3 crores. The highest figure of profit so far achieved by the Corporation was Rs 2.28 crores during 1969-70

(b) The various factors which have contributed towards this satisfactory result may be summarised as follows:

(1) rationalisation of the shift system and elimination of wasteful work practices;

(2) vigorous economy measures adopted;

(3) increased productivity and efficiency on the part of the staff;

(4) reduction in over-time payments; and

(5) curtailment of some of the unprofitable services;

(c) and (d). It is the constant endeavour of the Corporation to effect improvement in its productivity and efficiency and thereby to achieve better financial results.

बिहार में बैंकों का कार्यकरण

900. श्री रामाचतार शाल्बी : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बैंकों के राष्ट्रीयकरण से पूर्व बिहार में कार्यरत बैंकों की कुल संख्या तथा उनमें लगी कुल पूंजी तथा रक्षित निधि कितनी थी ;

(ख) राष्ट्रीयकरण के पश्चात बैंकों की संख्या तथा पूंजी तथा रक्षित निधि में कितनी वृद्धि हुई और बैंकों में इस समय लगी कुल पूंजी तथा रक्षित निधि कितनी हैं ; और

(ग) राष्ट्रीयकरण से पूर्व और राष्ट्रीयकरण के पश्चात बैंकों में जमा पूंजी एवं लोगों को दिये गये ऋणों की राशि का तुलनात्मक व्यौरा क्या है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी

राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुसर्जी) :

(क) और (ख) बैंक राष्ट्रीयकरण की पूर्व संख्या को अर्थात् 19 जुलाई, 1969 को बिहार में 17 वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की 274 शाखाएं थी । 31-12-1975 को इस राज्य में, वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की संख्या बढ़कर 21 हो गई और उनकी शाखाएं बढ़कर 2819 हो गई । बिहार में कारोबार करने वाले वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की जो कुल पूंजी और प्रारक्षित निधि दिसम्बर, 1968 के अन्त में 80.50 लाख रुपये थी वह बढ़कर दिसम्बर 1974 के अन्त में 140.79 लाख रुपये हो गई ।

(घ) बिहार राज्य में, वाणिज्यिक बैंकों की जमाओं, भण्डारों और निवेशों के आंकड़ों की जून, 1969 और मार्च 1975 के अंत की स्थिति नीचे लिखे अनुसार की :

| निम्नलिखित के अंत में | जमाएं | भण्डार | निवेश* |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| | | (राशि लाख रुपयों में) | |
| जून, 1969 | 169,36 | 52,27 | 15,42 |
| मार्च, 1975 | 549,76 | 245,99 | 82,00 |

*निवेश में वे निवेश भी शामिल हैं जो राज्य सरकार के और राज्य स्तर के निकायों की प्रविष्टियों में तथा ज्वाइंट स्टॉक कंपनियों के शेयरों और डिबेंचरों में लिये गये हैं।

Visit of a Japanese Marine Products Delegation to India

901 SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether recently an eight member Japanese marine products delegation visited India;

(b) if so, the purpose of their visit;

(c) whether while addressing the meeting of Marine Products Export Development Authority of India the Delegation Leader had indicated existence of good market for Indian marine products in Japan; and

(d) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) (a) and (b), Yes, Sir To participate in the Second Sea-food Trade Fair held in Madras in February, 1976

(c) and (d) The Japanese delegation attended two business conferences organised by Marine Products Export Development Authority at the Second Sea-food Trade Fair held at Madras. They had discussions with exporters at the conference as well as at other places in connection with the growing

demand for Marine products in Japan. Constant efforts are being made to exploit the Japanese market for Marine Products.

Trade Agreement with South Korean Government

902 SARDAR SWAPAN SINGH SOKHI

.. SHRI S A MURUGANANTHAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any trade agreement has been signed with the South Korean Government; and

(b) if so, the names of the commodities to be imported and exported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes Sir, in August, 1974

(b) Two statements indicating the commodities available for export and import from either side are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10474/76].

Export of Engineering Goods to South East Asia

903. SHRI CHANTRASHEKHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an export market for Indian engineering goods in South East Asia; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to mobilise the market for our goods?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Exports of engineering goods to South East Asian Countries have been progressively increasing from Rs. 32.27 crores in 1971-72 to Rs. 92.80 crores in 1974-75

(b) The Engineering Export Promotion Council has established its foreign offices at Singapore and Manila to look after India's exports to South East Asian Countries. Foreign Officers posted there constantly visit the countries in their jurisdiction as part of their promotional efforts. Other measures include; establishing contacts with foreign buyers brightening the image of India's potential for supplying quality engineering goods, follow up of potential enquiries, participating in trade fairs and exhibitions etc.

Handloom Exports

904. SHRI P. GANGADEB. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a new cash assistance policy for 1976-77 in regard to the Handloom exports;

(b) whether the policy will be based on the difference between the domestic and international cotton prices;

(c) if so, salient features thereof; and

(d) whether there would be any increase in the Handloom export target during 1976-77 as compared to 1975-76?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) to (c). Government do not directly grant any cash assistance on exports of handloom cotton textiles. However, the Indian Cotton Mills Federation operates an Export Incentive Scheme which cover handloom exports also. The question of Government's contribution for this scheme for 1976-77 is under examination.

(d) Yes, Sir. As against Rs. 97.50 crores for 1975-76, export targets for handloom cotton textiles for 1976-77 has been fixed at Rs. 121 crores

Development of Wynad as a Tourist Centre

905. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop Wynad in Kerala as a major tourist centre during the Fifth Plan; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). There is as yet no proposal to develop Wynad in Kerala as a tourist centre in the Central Sector. However, the Government of Kerala have made a provision of Rs. 5 lakhs for the development of facilities at Wynad in their Fifth Five Year Plan.

Inland aviation Services

906. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to increase the inland aviation services;

(b) if so, whether Uttar Pradesh, being the biggest State of the country has a special claim; and

(c) whether Government propose to introduce hopping services with small aircraft originating from Lucknow and linking important towns of the State including those which are not yet on aviation map?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The question of increasing inland aviation services is constantly under review of Indian Airlines who operate domestic air services in the country. Several cities in Uttar Pradesh are at present air linked. The claims of this State for more air links will receive due consideration by the Corporation keeping in view their fleet position as also the cost of air operations which has increased considerably as a result of hike in the price of aviation fuel.

(c). There is no such proposal under consideration.

Working of Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India

907. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Board of Directors of the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation has appointed a one-man Committee to review the working of the Corporation and its assisted units with the power to appoint its own consultancy firm to find out the details of the IRCI loans and their utilisation by assisted units;

(b) whether the appointment of such a Review Committee was made with the prior concurrence of Government; and

(c) the terms of reference of the Review Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). To review its own operations in order to make it a more effective instrument in assisting the revival/reconstruction of sick/closed industrial units, the Board of Directors of the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India Ltd. felt the need for appointing an independent body to go into the working of the corporation and suggest measures for its improvement. Accordingly it appointed a one-man Committee assisted by consultants. Government has been aware of this decision.

(c) The terms of reference for the Review Committee approved by the Board of Directors of the Corporation are as follows:—

(1) To review the functioning of Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India and to make an assessment of the extent to which the Corporation has been successful in fulfilling the mandate for which it was set up in the reconstruction of sick industrial units. Case studies are to be undertaken for this purpose.

(2) To assess how far the principles and procedures followed so far have been satisfactory and whether these have been satisfactorily implemented.

(3) To identify the areas of weaknesses of the strategy of reconstruction followed and in the implementation of such strategy and to recommend improvements in policy and operational techniques for improving the effectiveness of the corporation in discharging its functions.

(4) To assess the capabilities of the Organisational structure of the corporation and to recommend suitable changes in the set-up including strengthening its internal capabilities in financial, technical, management and marketing fields.

(5) To study the working of at least some of the assisted units to review the assessments made by the corporation.

(6) To outline measures for bringing about closer and more effective co-ordination with Commercial Banks, Financial Institutions and outside Technical and Management Agencies and Specialists.

(7) To study any other aspect of the working of Corporation as the Committee may deem necessary for an appraisal of its working.

पालम हवाई अड्डे पर दिये गये माल बेचने के ठेके

909. श्री हरि सिंह : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वर्ष 1975 में पालम हवाई अड्डे पर राष्ट्रीय और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय विमानों में विभिन्न वस्तुओं के विक्रय के लिये ठेके दिये गये थे ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन किन वस्तुओं के लिये ठेके दिये गये और प्रत्येक ठेके से सरकार को कितनी राशि प्राप्त हुई ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) अपेक्षित सूचना देने वाला एक ववरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है । [प्रत्यालय में रखा गया । देखिये संख्या एल० टी० 10475/76].

Overdrafts Drawn by States

910. SHRI K. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts of overdrafts drawn by each State during 1975-76;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India has warned any State for excess drawal; and

(c) whether there is any improvement during 1975-76 as compared to previous year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c). Under the Overdraft Regulation Scheme introduced from 1st May 1972, overdraft on the Reserve Bank is not to be regarded as a budgetary resource, and if a State runs an overdraft with the Bank for more than seven consecutive working days, its payments are liable to be suspended. The Reserve Bank communicates to the State Governments their daily cash balance position, and whenever a State Government has overdrawn its account, the Reserve Bank advises them to take immediate steps to clear the overdraft.

During the year 1975-76, all States excepting the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya had over-drawn their accounts on one occasion or the other (upto 8th March 1976). But in most of the cases, the State Governments had brought their accounts in credit within 7 days.

Overdrafts are reflective of the day-to-day cash balance position of the State Governments, and can, therefore, be indicated with reference to a particular date only, and not for the year as a whole. The adjusted cash balance position of the State Governments as on 31st March 1976 will be known only after the close of the financial year. It appears however that there has been an improvement during 1975-76 as compared to the previous year.

Persons arrested under COFEPOSA

911. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 370 on the 9th January, 1976 regarding persons arrested under COFEPOSA and state:

(a) How many of the persons detained or arrested before or after the declaration of internal emergency are still in detention and how many of them have been released with reasons therefor; and

(b) whether 296 persons who were yet to be detained have since been detained, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) Of the 1207 persons detained during the year 1975 (1-1-75 to 31st December 75) under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, as on 6-3-76, 1108 persons were still in detention, 98 persons had been released and 1 person had died. The break-up of the releases and the reasons therefor are as follows:—

| | |
|--|----|
| (i) On the basis of the opinion of the concerned Advisory Board | 70 |
| (ii) On the basis of the orders of a High Court in writ proceedings | 17 |
| (iii) On the expiry of the term of the period of detention | 2 |
| (iv) Death | 1 |
| (v) Revocation of the detention orders by State Governments on other grounds | 9 |

(b) Of the 296 persons who were yet to be detained as on 1-1-76, 46 have since been detained as on 6-3-76. The remaining 250 persons are evading apprehension.

राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों में सफाई कर्मचारी तथा चौकीदार

912. श्री कमला मिश्र मजुकर : क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनका ध्यान 12 फरवरी, 1976 के एक हिन्दी दैनिक 'जनयुग' में इस आशय से प्रकटित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है कि राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों में सफाई कर्मचारियों और चौकीदारों को अभी भी ठेके के आधार पर रखा जा रहा है; और

(ख) इस प्रथा को समाप्त करने के लिए सरकार की क्या योजना है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब कुमार मुखर्जी) :

(क) सरकार ने यह रिपोर्ट देखी है। सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों ने सूचित किया है कि वे सामान्यतः झाड़ू लगाने और सफाई करने तथा चौकीदार के काम के लिए पूर्णकालिक/अंशकालिक आधार पर नियमित कर्मचारी रखते हैं। किन्तु, कुछ बैंकों ने सूचित किया है कि उनके कुछ कार्यालयों/भवनों की, विशेष रूप से बड़मजिले भवनों की सफाई का काम ठेके पर दिया जाता है क्योंकि यह विशेष योग्यता का काम है।

(ख) संविदा श्रमिक (विनियमन और उत्सहित) अधिनियम के अधीन स्थापित, संविदा श्रम विषयक केन्द्रीय सल हकार बोर्ड इस विषय में कार्यवाई आरम्भ कर चुका है।

Permission to concorde for overflying India

913. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held between the Governments of India and United Kingdom on the question of granting permission to Concorde to overfly India; and

(b) if so, the result of such talks?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHUR): Yes, Sir. This matter was taken up by the British High Commissioner in India with the Government.

(b) The Government of India have not agreed to Supersonic flights by Concorde aircraft over India.

Closure of textile mills in Tamil Nadu

914. **SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether nine textile mills in Tamil Nadu have been shut down due to labour trouble;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for labour unrest;

(c) the total number of employees who became unemployed due to the closure of mills;

(d) whether the co-ordinating Committee of Trade Unions in these mills has demanded immediate take-over of these mills by National Textile Corporation; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) No textile mill in Tamil Nadu is reported presently closed due to labour trouble.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Review of cases of persons detained under COFEPOSA

915 **SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what machinery Government have set up to review the cases of persons who were arrested under MISA/Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING): (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Specific provisions for review of the cases of persons detained under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, have been made under Sections 9(3) and 12A(3) of the Act itself. Cases under Section 9(3) are reviewed by the concerned Government in consultation with a person who is, or has been, or is qualified to be appointed, as a Judge of a High Court nominated in that behalf by that Government. Under Section 12A(3), the cases of delinquents are reviewed by the concerned Government itself at intervals not exceeding 4 months.

Representations against an order of detention made by or on behalf of persons detained under the orders of a State Government/Union Territory Administration or its officers are considered by a group of Senior Officers of the State and Central Government. Representations received from or on behalf of the persons detained under order of the Central Government or its officer are considered by the detaining authority.

In addition, a Committee has been set up to generally review cases of all persons who have been under detention for a year or more.

Records of payment of income tax

916. **SHRI ERASMO de SEQUEIRA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that records of payments of income tax by assessee are in most cases not up-to-date and assessee are being requested by the department to provide details themselves, after service of avoidable notices; and

(b) If so, action proposed to be taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE, OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The records of payments of income-tax by assesses are generally, properly maintained. However, in some cases, where payment challans are not readily available in the income-tax Office, assesses are requested to produce their copies of challans for verification. This is done with a view to avoid the initiation of recovery proceedings and consequent harassment in those cases where payments have already been made.

(b) Instructions have been issued to ensure proper maintenance of records and adjustment of all tax payments to avoid harassment to the tax Payers.

Exchange of mutilated notes

917. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Ministry of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases regarding exchange of mutilated notes pending with Reserve Bank of India as on 29th February, 1976; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to clear the arrears?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI)

(a) the number of cases regarding exchange of mutilated notes pending with various offices of the Reserve Bank of India as on 29th February, 1976 was 41,495.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India has taken several steps to expedite the clearance of arrears. Additional staff has been sanctioned to the Claims Sections and a proposal

to open Claims Sections at Reserve Bank of India's sub-offices at Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Gauhati and Jaipur is under active consideration. Reserve Bank of India has instructed Public Sector Banks to provide facilities at all their branches for exchange of slightly mutilated notes and notes divided into two halves but clearly identifiable as being parts of the same note. All banks, Posts and Telegraph Offices and Railways have been asked to accept slightly mutilated or badly soiled notes in payment of their dues. In order to minimise the hardship to the general public, priority is accorded for the disposal of cases involving fewer notes.

Beggars at places of tourist attraction

918 SHRI K SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the problem of beggars that haunt at places of tourist attraction; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to eradicate the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Eradicating the problem of beggars at the places of tourist attraction is the responsibility of the State Governments concerned. However, the Department of Tourism has been periodically reminding the State Governments and impressing upon them to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate this problem particularly from the vicinity of the places of tourist interest in their respective States in the light of the instructions contained in the Prime Minister's letter addressed to all the State Governments on 9th August, 1971.

It has been reported by the State Governments that they have instructed

their respective Superintendents of Police to post police constables at the places of tourist interest in their respective States in order to keep places of tourist attraction clean from beggars etc.

While begging is a social and economic problem and keeping places of tourist interest free from beggars is a normal function of State Authorities, the Department of Tourism will continue its efforts to persuade every one concerned to take suitable measures in this regard.

World Bank Assistance for Minor Irrigation Schemes in Faizabad District of U. P.

919 SHRI R. K. SINHA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of World Bank assistance earmarked for minor irrigation scheme in Faizabad District in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) what was the target date for distribution of the World Bank assistance to farmers under the minor irrigation scheme and the amount actually disbursed upto 28th February, 1976;

(c) the particular reasons for which the assistance could not be disbursed by the target date; and

(d) when the target of disbursement is likely to be achieved and the special steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM). (a) Presumably the Hon. Member is referring to the U.P. Agricultural Credit Agreement for which was signed with International Development Association on 8-6-1973. This agreement provides for a credit of US \$ 38 million to finance a 3 year programme of farmers investments in minor irrigation in 14 Distts. in the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh including Faizabad Distt. No amount has been earmarked for Faizabad District as such in the Credit agreement.

(b) to (d): The closing date for the project is 31st December, 1978. The current expectation is that the amount of the credit would be disbursed by that date. The amount actually disbursed by 29-2-1978 in Faizabad Distt. through the Land Development Bank is Rs. 1.79 crores.

Export subsidy for jute mills

920. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export subsidy holds no benefit for jute mills; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) Various measures which have been adopted by the Government to make our exports more competitive have resulted in gains to the jute mills as well

विदेशों में बैंकों में खाते रखने वाले भारतीय

921. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण चौधरी : क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि -

(क) क्या सरकार ने भारत में स्थायी रूप से रहने वाले व्यक्तियों के विदेशों में बैंकों में खातों के बारे में पता लगाने के लिये कोई अभियान प्रारम्भ किया है ,

(ख) ग. एक वर्ष के दौरान विभिन्न राज्यों में ऐसे व्यक्तियों के विवरण कितने कारणों से नोटिस जारी किये गये, और

(ग) ग. एक वर्ष के दौरान विदेशों से दिल्ली, उत्तर प्रदेश, हरियाणा और राजस्थान को कितनी धनराशि भेजी गई ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री सी० सुब्रह्मण्यम्) :

(क) विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम 1973 के अन्तर्गत, भारत में रहने वाले व्यक्तियों द्वारा विदेशों में बैंक खाते भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की अनुमति से ही रखे जा सकते हैं। कार्मिक और प्रशासनिक सुधार विभाग का प्रवर्तन निदेशालय, जिस पर विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम के उल्लंघन के मामलों का पता लगाने और अपराधियों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने की जिम्मेदारी है, विदेशों में ऐसे अनधिकृत बैंक खातों का पता लगाने और ऐसे खाते रखने वाले व्यक्तियों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने का काम निरन्तर करता है।

(ख) प्रवर्तन निदेशालय द्वारा सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा-घटन पर रख दी जाएगी।

(ग) प्रत्येक राज्य के आंकड़े अलग से संकलित नहीं किए जाते। लेकिन नीचे दिए गए आंकड़ों का सम्बन्ध भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की नई दिल्ली और कानपुर की शाखाओं के अन्तर्गत आने वाले राज्यों अर्थात् दिल्ली, उत्तर प्रदेश, हरियाणा, राजस्थान, हिमाचल प्रदेश, जम्मू और कश्मीर, पंजाब और मध्य प्रदेश से है।

(करोड़ रुपए)

| वर्ष | भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक नई दिल्ली | भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक कानपुर | जोड़ |
|-------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| 1974. | 104.86 | 5 52 | 110.38 |
| 1975 | 200 91 | 7 70 | 208 61 |

2 ये आंकड़े देश में प्राप्त होने वाली कुल रकमों के हैं। जिसमें निर्यात से होने वाली प्राप्तियों को छोड़ कर सभी प्रकार की वैयक्तिक और वणिज्यिक प्रेषणांश मिले हैं।

3 1975 के आंकड़े अन्तिम हैं क्योंकि कुछ बैंकों से प्राप्त विवरणियों की भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा जांच की जा रही है।

सोवियत संघ, अमेरिका तथा ब्रिटेन को निर्यात तथा उनसे आयात

977 डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण चौधरी : क्या वार्षिक मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान मध्यम सोवियत संघ, अमेरिका तथा ब्रिटेन को किन वस्तुओं का निर्यात हुआ तथा वहाँ से किन वस्तुओं का आयात हुआ ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) :

निर्यात की गई वस्तुएँ (1972-73, 1973-74 तथा 1974-75)

इथरक्या उत्पाद, कृषि तथा सम्बद्ध उत्पाद अर्थात् वनस्पति तेल (गन्ध रहित), तम्बाकू भण्डारे, चीनी, फल तथा सब्जियाँ, सगन्ध तेल, सुगन्ध तथा सुगन्ध सामग्री, तथा बागान उत्पाद, धातुक तथा खनिज पदार्थ और स्कैप टैक्स्टाइल फैब्रिक्स तथा विनिर्मित सामान (कपूर और पटसन को छोड़ कर), चमड़े की चीजें, खान तथा चमड़िया, इजी-नियरी माल, हस्तशिल्प, ऊन तथा अन्य जानवरों के बाल (मानव केशों के अलावा), मशीनें (बिजली इनर), कमात्मक वस्तुएँ, संग्रह करने योग्य चीजें और पुरातन वस्तुएँ तथा अन्य विनिर्मित माल।

सावत की कई वर्षों : (1972-73, 1973-74 तथा 1974-75)

गेडू बिना पिता घनाज बनस्पति तेल (गंध रहित) अयस्क तथा खनिज पदार्थ धातु का बना सामान बिजली की मशीनों को छोड़कर अन्य मशीन बिजली की मशीन, सन्यन्त्र तथा साधित्र, परिवहन उपकरण, विनिर्मित उर्वरक, रबड़ से बनी वस्तुएँ जिसमें कच्चा रबड़ भी शामिल है, कागज तथा गत्ता, खुदी तथा रूई कागज, मोती, मूल्यवान तथा अर्धमूल्यवान रत्न (बिना तराशे हुए तथा तराशे हुए) लोहा तथा इस्पात, रासायनिक तत्व तथा यौगिक, औषधीय तथा भेषजीय उत्पाद, वैज्ञानिक, डाक्टरी, दृष्टि सम्बन्धी, माप तौल तथा कन्ट्रोल करने के यन्त्र तथा सन्यन्त्र फोटोग्राफिक तथा सिनेमाटोग्राफिक सप्लाइज मूलिका निर्माण सामग्री, रंगने, कमाने तथा कलर करने की सामग्री, विस्फोटक तथा अतिशबाजी की वस्तुएँ सोयाबीन तेल, बाघ यन्त्र तथा उनका सहायक सामान।

चमड़े के सामान का निर्यात

923. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण लीडेबः क्या खाजिख मन्त्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या गत दो वर्षों के दौरान चमड़े के सामान का निर्यात काफी बढ़ा है;

(ख) यदि हा, तो कौन-कौन से देश इन वस्तुओं का आयात कर रहे हैं और इसका निर्यात किनने प्रतिशत बढ़ा है; और

(ग) चमड़े के सामान का निर्यात बढ़ाने और इस उद्योग को खाजिख की दृष्टि से सुगठित बनाने हेतु क्या उपाय किये गये हैं अथवा करने का विचार है?

खाजिख मंत्रालय में उत्तरांत्री (श्री बिजयनाथ प्रसाद सिंह). (क) और (ख) भारत से चमड़े का सामान आयात करने वाले प्रमुख देश जापान, मलयेश र जय अमरीका तथा पश्चिम जर्मनी हैं।

चमड़े के सामान के निर्यात, जो 1973-74 में 6.17 करोड़ रु० के हुए थे, बढ़कर 1974-75 में 12.83 करोड़ रु० के हो गए और इस तरह लगभग 107 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई।

सरकार द्वारा किए गए प्रोत्साहन किए गए संवर्धन उपाय

चमड़े के सामान के निर्यात बढ़ाने और इस उद्योग को खाजिख रूप में सुसंगठित बनाने के लिए किए गए/किए जाने के लिए प्रस्तावित उपाय निम्नलिखित हैं —

- (1) चमड़े के निर्यातों के आधार पर रजिस्ट्रार निर्यातकों के लिए आयात नीति के अन्तर्गत आयात प्रमिपूति दी जाती है।
- (2) विमान से भेजे जाने वाले माल के आधार पर चमड़े के सामान के निर्यात को विमान भाड़ा उपदान उपलब्ध है।
- (3) निम्नलिखित के लिए मुद्रा-वजा सहायता दी गई है —
 - (क) चमड़े के जूते और परिधान
 - (ख) चमड़े की चप्पलें और सैंडलें।
 - (ग) चमड़े के जूते के अर्पर, जूते के अर्न्तर और चमड़े से बना सामान।
- (4) चमड़े तथा चमड़े से निर्मित सामान पर, जिनमें जूते शामिल हैं, विभिन्न दरों पर मुक्त व पिती दी जाती है।
- (5) तैयार चमड़े तथा चमड़े के सामान के निर्यातों में वृद्धि को बढ़ावा देने की सरकारी नीति के अनुसरण में अर्ध

तैयार कीं और चमड़े की
के निर्यातों पर 1-8-1973
के कोटा-वर्तमान लागू कर
बिना बढ़ है।

(6) सर्व-तैयार चमड़े के सभी
विभिन्नता सर्व तैयार चमड़े
की ल इन्वेन्-प्राप्त क्षमता के
बराबर नया ल.इन्वेन् लिए
बिना तैयार चमड़ा बनाने की
क्षमता स्थापित कर सकते हैं।

(7) रसायन-सामग्री, रजक-
सामग्री और चमड़ा मशीनरी
की सूची में विभिन्न प्रकार
की ऐसी मर्दे/उत्पाद जोड़
कर उसका विस्तार किया
गया है जो घा.र० ई० पी०
लाइनेसों के आधार पर
पञ्जीयित निर्यातों द्वारा
आयात की जानी होती हैं
और इसके लिए उन्हें हर
बार डी० जी० टी० डी० नहीं
जाना पड़ेगा।

(8) मशीनरी नया रजक सामग्री
के आयात के सम्बन्ध में
आयात प्रतिपूर्ति की प्रति-
क्षमता विद्यमान प्रतिक्षमता से
अधिक कर दी गई है।

(9) राज्य व्यापार निगम को
विभिन्न राज्यों में 158 लाख
र० की कुल लागत में 5
सामान्य मुविषा केन्द्र एक
डिजाइन प्रकोष्ठ, एक मोल
समन्वय चमड़ा आदि की
स्थापना करने के लिए प्राधि-
कृत किया गया है।

(10) चमड़ा उद्योग के विकास
कार्यक्रम की देखभाल के लिए
उद्योग तथा नागरिक पूर्ति

मन्त्रालय के नियन्त्रण के
अधीन चमड़ा विकास निगम
स्थापित किया जा रहा है।

(11) तैयार चमड़े तथा जूनें समेत
चमड़े से बने सामान को उन
अर्हता प्राप्त उद्योगों की सूची
में शामिल कर लिया गया है
जो निवेश करने के पात्र हैं।

मध्य प्रदेश और राजस्थान में पर्यटन केन्द्रों
का विकास

924. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :

श्री हुकूम चन्द कछवाय :

क्या पर्यटन और नागर विधानन मन्त्री
यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश तथा राजस्थान
के कतिपय महत्वपूर्ण ऐतिहासिक स्थलों को
पर्यटन केन्द्रों के रूप में विकसित करने की
माग की गई है और यदि हा, तो वे स्थल कौन-
कौन से हैं,

(ख) क्या इन राज्यों ने ऐतिहासिक
महत्व के कतिपय विद्यमान पर्यटन केन्द्रों का
और विकास करने की भी माग की है और
यदि हा, तो उनके नाम क्या हैं, और

(ग) इस बाड़े में सरकार ने क्या कार्य-
वाही की है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विधानन मन्त्रालय में
राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र चान सिंह) : (क)
से (ग) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से कोई प्रस्ताव
प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

राजस्थान राज्य सरकार ने भरतपुर
तथा डीव के समेकित विकास का सुझाव दिया
था। अतः राजस्थान सरकार से एक व्यापक
योजना तैयार करने का अनुरोध किया गया
था जिसकी प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है। इस बीच

पर्यटन विभाग ने रेलवे स्टेशन से पक्की बिहार तथा भारतपुर के किले तक के पंद्रह भागों के एक भाग का सुधार तथा स्थल-दृश्य निर्माण करने पर 3.69 लाख रुपये का व्यय किया है तथा अथवा किले से जयपुर के समीप नाहरगढ़ किले तक सड़क के सुधार के लिए 4.94 लाख रुपये की राशि भी स्वीकृत कर दी है।

जैसलमेर स्थित वर्तमान पर्यटक बंगले के विस्तार के लिए भी एक प्रस्ताव राजस्थान सरकार द्वारा किया गया था जिसकी जांच अतिरिक्त निधियों के उपलब्ध होने के सापेक्ष ही की जाएगी।

Misuse of import licences

925. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what measures have so far been adopted in view of the 20-point economic programme to prevent economic offences like improper use of import licences;

(b) how many complaints have been lodged in this regard with C.B.I. by his Ministry; and

(c) how many complaints pertain to West Bengal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: (a) An ordinance to amend the Imports & Exports (Control) Act was promulgated on 4th November, 1975. The Ordinance has since been replaced by the Imports & Exports (Control) Amendment Act (No. 12 of 1976). The amended Act empowers the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports to deal more effectively with economic offences relating to misutilisation of imported goods and misrepresentation of facts in obtaining import licences.

(b) During 1975-76, complaints have been lodged by the Import Trade Control Authorities with the C.B.I. in 28 cases.

(c) Only one case pertains to West Bengal

Working Hours of Bankmen

926. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Chief Executives of Public Sector Banks have discussed the extension of the working hours of bankmen from 6½ hours to 8 hours;

(b) whether any final decision in the matter has been taken in consultation with the bank employees;

(c) whether Government propose to evolve a rational policy for working hours for employees in public sector undertakings and the Central Government employees; and

(d) if so, the nature of the steps taken or proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: (a) and (b). During the meeting of the chief executive of public sector banks held on 24th February 1976, a suggestion was made to increase the working hours of bank employees. No final decision has been taken.

(c) and (d). The effective working hours of office employees both in Central Government and banks, are 6½ hours per day, except on Saturday which is a halfworking day for banks but a full working day in Government on all Saturdays other than the Second Saturday in a month.

As far as public sector undertakings are concerned, Government do not have any specific proposal to evolve a new policy for working hours of their employees.

Insurance Scheme for Government Employees

927. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Third Pay Commission had suggested that by paying Rs. 5 a Government employee might be given a policy of Rs. 5,000 and the actual amount will be refunded without interest if he retires;

(b) if so, at what stage the matter rests at present;

(c) whether a great majority of the employees want this scheme while their JCM representatives hold different views individually; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to circulate the scheme for opinion and take a decision thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (d). The Third Central Pay Commission had recommended an insurance scheme for Central Government employees, which on a monthly contribution of Rs. 5/- would provide a cover of Rs. 5000/- on death while in service to the family of the deceased Government servant and a return of the actual amount contributed by him without addition of any interest in case of superannuation or demission of office for any reason. The representatives of the Staff Side in the National Council of the JCM did not favour this scheme on the ground that the scheme covered only the risk of death during service and did not provide for any additional benefit on retirement. Accordingly, an improved scheme was prepared and circulated for the consideration of the Staff representatives. The modified scheme has since been accepted by them. Further action to implement the scheme is in hand.

Decision to Prohibit Manufacture of Coloured Sarees on Powerlooms

928. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA:

SHRI Z. M. KAHANDOLE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to prohibit manufacture of coloured sarees on powerlooms;

(b) if so, whether this will seriously affect a very large number of Powerlooms in Maharashtra and those affected have appealed to Government in this matter; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir. The production of coloured sarees on powerlooms has been banned since 1966.

(b) and (c). Representations that the ban will seriously affect a large number of powerlooms in Maharashtra have been received; review of the ban has also been demanded. Government have considered all aspects of the matter and have decided to maintain the ban and to enforce the same strictly.

Export of Sugar

929. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the figures of export of sugar in the current year upto 31st December, 1975 and prospects of further exports upto 31st March, 1976 and how do they compare with last two years' exports;

(b) the figures of unit value realizations for the above periods; and

(c) how do they compare with internal prices for levy sugar?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):**

(a) to (c). The information is given in the statement attached.

Statement

| Period | Quantity | Value | Quantity in Lakh Tonnes Value in Rs. Crores | |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------|--|---|
| | | | Unit Value (Rs. per Tonne) Realization | Average Internal Levy price (per Tonne) |
| I-4-1975 to 31-12-1975 | 7.14 | 301.97 | 4226 | 2287 |
| 1975-76 (likely) | 12.00 | 460.00 | 4072 | 2287 |
| 1974-75 | 6.95 | 340.56 | 4900 | 2242 |
| 1973-74 | 2.48 | 41.89 | 1700 | 1596 |

Export of Silver

930. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the figures of export of silver in the current year, indicating quantity and value thereof;

(b) the countries to which it was exported; and

(c) the impact of export on the smuggling of this metal out of India?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-
CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI
PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):**

(a). Between 1-4-75 and 29-2-76 silver weighing 16,06,899 kgs. valued at Rs. 1,92,18,26,444 was exported from India.

(b) The exports were effected mainly to U.K., U.S.A., France, Switzerland Italy, Dubai and U.A.R.

(c) Intelligence reports and other indications confirm that illicit movement of silver has been checked effectively. Apart from the official exports of silver, the anti-smuggling drive has also contributed towards containing the unauthorised export of silver.

Increase made in the Emoluments of Pensioners

931. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any increase has been made in the pension and dearness allowance of pensioners during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the increase made at each time for each one of the categories of the pensioners?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHATGI):**

(a) and (b). Increase in pension. As a result of the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission the following decisions were taken:—

(i) The pension is calculated on the basis of 33/80 instead of 30/80 of the average emoluments of 36 months prior to retirement.

(ii) The maximum quantum of pension has been raised from Rs. 675 p.m. to Rs. 1,000 p.m.

(iii) The maximum amount of DCR Gratuity has been raised from Rs. 24,000 to Rs. 30,000.

- (iv) The maximum family pension has been raised from Rs. 150 p.m. to Rs. 250 p.m. and the minimum from Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 p.m.

The above decisions were given effect from 1-1-73, except that the calculation of emoluments for pension is now based on 10 months average w.e.f. 1-3-76.

Relief to pensioners

The Third Pay Commission recommended the grant of relief at the rate of 5 per cent of pension subject to minimum of Rs. 5 and maximum of Rs. 25, to pensioners, as and when there is a 16-point rise in the 12-monthly average of the All India Working Class Consumer Price Index (1960-100), the relief for the first time being paid when the index average reaches 216. Three instalments of relief have already been granted on this basis covering the index average up to 248. These have been sanctioned w.e.f. 1-8-73, 1-1-74 and 1-4-74 respectively. In addition to the above relief, pensioners who retired before 1-1-73 have also been granted an *ad hoc* relief ranging from Rs. 15-35 per month with effect from 1-1-73. In his Budget Speech, the Finance Minister has announced the grant of an *ad hoc* relief of 10 per cent of pension, subject to a minimum of Rs. 10, and a maximum of Rs. 50 p.m. w.e.f. 1st October, 1975, in addition to the above.

The reliefs already sanctioned to pensioners as well as the additional *ad hoc* relief announced for them in the Budget Speech will also be extended to family pensioners.

Tourist Traffic

932. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:
SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS
MUNSI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of foreign tourists who visited India during the years 1974 and 1975, country-wise; and

- (b) the amount of foreign exchange earned as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (Placed in Library. See No. LT-10476/76.)

- (b) The amounts of foreign exchange earned from tourism at current prices are estimated at Rs. 93.2 crores for 1974 and 104.2 crores for 1975.

Opening of Regional Rural Banks in Himachal Pradesh

933. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of Regional Rural Banks opened in the State of Himachal Pradesh under the 20-Point economic programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): No Regional Rural Bank has yet been set up in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

मध्य प्रदेश में विमान सेवा से जुड़े पर्यटक केन्द्र

934. श्री श्रीराम मंदार: क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

- (क) मध्य प्रदेश में वायु मार्ग से जुड़े पर्यटक केन्द्रों की संख्या कितनी है और क्या अन्य पर्यटक केन्द्रों को भी विमान सेवा से जोड़ने का प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है; और

- (ख) यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री राव बहादुर): (क) और (ख). इन्डियन एयर लाइन्स इस समय मध्य प्रदेश में विमान

निर्दिष्ट 11:57 केम्पों के लिए सेवाएं परि-
भाषित कर रही है :—

1. बीपल
2. इन्वीर
3. ग्वालियर
4. बजुराहो ।

कारपोरेशन की पंचवीं योजनाग्रंथि के
दौरान राज्य में किन्हीं और पर्यटन केम्पों को
विमान सेवा से जोड़ने की कोई योजनाएं नहीं
हैं ।

नई विमान सेवा प्रारम्भ करने की योजना

935. श्री भागीरथ शंकर : क्या सर्वेक्षण
और मानव विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की
कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने इस तथ्य को ध्यान
में रखते हुए कि विमानों में घाटे की पूर्ति कर
ली है, देश में नई विमान सेवाएं प्रारम्भ करने
की कोई योजना तैयार की है और यदि हां,
तो तत्सम्बन्धी कपरेखा क्या है; और

(ख) क्या अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय वायु मार्ग पर
कोई विमान सेवाएं चलाये जाने की योजना
है और यदि हां, तो किन देशों में और कहाँ से
कहाँ तक ?

सर्वेक्षण और मानव विमानन मंत्री
श्री राज बहादुर : (क) विमानन ईंधन के
मूल्यों में अत्यधिक वृद्धि तथा इंडियन एयर
लाइन्स द्वारा अपने विमान बेड़े में से कटाटा
और बाइपास विमानों की निष्कास देने के
निर्णय के परिणामस्वरूप, कुछ समय पूर्व
कारपोरेशन ने 17 नगरों की विमान सेवाएँ,
जो बहुत ही अलाभग्रस्त थीं, समाप्त कर दी
थीं । तब से इंडियन एयर लाइन्स के लिये

बीरबन्धर एवं रायपुर की सेवाएं पुनः प्रारम्भ
करना सम्भव हुआ है । 1976 की प्रीथम
कालीन समयावली में कारपोरेशन का केसोब
की सेवा को भी पुनः प्रारम्भ करने का प्रस्ताव
है । इसके अतिरिक्त, इण्डियन एयर लाइन्स
का फिलहाल कोई नई सेवा प्रारम्भ करने का
प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

(ख) जी, हां ।

(1) एयर इंडिया द्वारा 1976 के
बीरान निम्न नई अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय विमान सेवाएँ
प्रारम्भ की गई हैं जिनका की जायेंगी :—

(i) 1 फरवरी, 1976 से :

बम्बई से बराम्बा दिल्ली
दुबई के लिए एक उड़ान
तथा खाड़ी क्षेत्र में समाप्त
होने वाली तीन अतिरिक्त
उड़ानें ।

(ii) 1 अप्रैल, 1976 से :

(क) दो मास्को विमान सेवाओं
का लन्दन तक विस्तार ।

(ख) कुवैत में समाप्त होने
वाली एक सेवा का आगे
बगदाद तक विस्तार ।

(ग) इसके अतिरिक्त कारपो-
रेशन की वर्तमान सेवाओं
के मार्गचित्र के अन्तर्गत भी
अन्य परिवर्तन किया
गया :—

(2) इंडियन एयर लाइन्स ने श्री हजम
ही में त्रिनेद्रम और मन्ने (मानदीप) के बीच
अप्ताह में दो बार की विमान सेवा प्रारम्भ
की है ।

Bonds Purchased under Voluntary Disclosure Scheme

936. SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACH-WAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1092 on the 23rd January, 1976 regarding bonds purchased under Voluntary Disclosure scheme and state:

(a) the total value of the bonds purchased under the Voluntary Disclosure scheme upto 15th January, 1976 and the extent to which this amount falls short of the estimates of Government in this regard;

(b) the number of persons who have not purchased bonds even after submitting applications in this regard and the amount involved;

(c) whether the interest on the amount received against the bonds will be paid annually or only at the time of maturity; and

(d) whether any person can reinvest the amount of interest in bonds and if so, the terms and conditions thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Investments upto 15th January 1976 in 5½ per cent Bonds, 1985, issued under the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme, amounted to Rs. 15.89 crores; as per latest reports (as on 11th March 1976) investments have amounted to Rs. 38.76 crores. The response has been much more than anticipated at the time of introduction of the Scheme.

(b) Investment in 5½ per cent Bonds, 1985 was to be made in respect of declarations of voluntarily disclosed income and wealth. As per information presently available, against 2,54,528 such declarations, 2,38,257 depositors have actually made the investment upto 11th March, 1976. The amount required to be invested in respect of declarations of the voluntarily disclosed income works out to Rs. 34.47 crores. Information is not available

regarding investment to be made on account of declarations of wealth as this is based on the wealth disclosed for the last of the assessment years for which declaration was made. However, upto 11th March, 1976, total investment including that made in respect of declarations of wealth has amounted to Rs. 38.76 crores.

The concessions and immunities provided under the Scheme will be available only to the declarants who satisfy the prescribed conditions including due investment in Bonds.

(c) Interest on 5½ per cent Bonds, 1985 is payable half-yearly on 20th April and 20th October each year.

(d) No Sir. There is no provision for re-investment of interest in 5½% Bonds, 1985.

मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटन का विकास

937. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में मध्य प्रदेश को पर्यटन के विकास के लिए कितनी धनराशि की स्वीकृति दी गई;

(ख) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के विशाल क्षेत्र और अनेक महत्वपूर्ण ऐतिहासिक नगरों का ध्यान में रखते हुए उक्त धनराशि पर्याप्त नहीं है और यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार उक्त धनराशि में वृद्धि करने का है।

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में मध्य प्रदेश में कुछ नये पर्यटन केन्द्रों का विकास करने का है और यदि हां, तो उन नगरों के नाम क्या हैं और क्या उनका पर्यटक केन्द्रों के रूप में विकास करने के लिये कोई रूपरेखा तैयार की गई है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य रूपरेखा क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय
में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) योजना आयोग ने राष्ट्रीय क्षेत्र में पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के मसौदे में पर्यटन स्कीमों के लिए 140 लाख रुपए के परिव्यय का अनुमोदन किया था। इसके अतिरिक्त, पर्यटन विभाग ने खजुराहो, सांची, भोपाल तथा कान्हा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान में सुविधाओं का सृजन किया है। भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम का 50 लाख रुपए की अनुमानित लागत से पांचवीं योजनावधि के दौरान भोपाल में एक 100 शय्याओं वाले मोटल का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव है।

(ख) से (घ) : साधनों की तंगी के कारण, पर्यटन विभाग का अपने प्रयत्नों को खजुराहो, सांची तथा भोपाल में सुविधाओं का विकास करने पर केन्द्रित करने का प्रस्ताव है। सीमित साधनों को दृष्टि में रखते हुए, केन्द्रीय तथा राज्यीय दोनों ही क्षेत्रों में योजनागत, परिव्यय में वृद्धि करना सम्भव नहीं है।

मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटक केन्द्रों का विकास

938. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1974-75 और 1975-76 में मध्य प्रदेश में केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में पर्यटन केन्द्रों के विकास के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है;

(ख) वर्ष 1975-76 में केन्द्रीय सरकार ने राज्य सरकार को उक्त परियोजना के लिये कितनी धनराशि आवंटित की; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का बुरहानपुर में पर्यटन स्थलों का विकास करने का विचार है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) पर्यटक केन्द्रों का विकास उनकी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों में वर्तमान अथवा संभावित लोकप्रियता के आधार पर निर्धारित किया जाता है। इसे दृष्टि में रखते हुए खजुराहो, सांची, भोपाल तथा कान्हा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पर्यटकों के लिए सुविधाओं की पहले ही व्यवस्था की जा चुकी है। मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटन योजनाओं पर 1974-75 के दौरान केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में किए गए व्यय तथा 1975-76 के दौरान संभावित व्यय को दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण संलग्न है।

(ख) पर्यटन योजनाओं के लिए राज्य सरकारों को उपदान दिए जाने की प्रणाली को अब बन्द कर दिया गया है। तथापि, योजना आयोग ने राज्यीय क्षेत्र में पर्यटन परियोजनाओं के लिए 12 लाख रुपए के परिव्यय का अनुमोदन कर दिया है।

(ग) राज्य सरकार का पांचवीं योजनावधि के दौरान बुरहानपुर में एक पर्यटक विश्राम गृह का निर्माण करने का प्रस्ताव है। राज्य सरकार की पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में 2 लाख रुपए की व्यवस्था मौजूद है।

विवरण

| क्रम नं० स्कीम का नाम | वास्तविक व्यय 1974-75 | प्रत्याशित व्यय 1975-76 |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | रुपए | रुपए |
| 1. खजुराहो में पानी का प्रबंध | 2,40,000 | 75,000 |
| 2. सांची में पानी का प्रबंध | 70,000 | — |
| 3. कान्हा किसली में पानी का प्रबंध 3 | 60,000 | — |
| 4. भोपाल में युवा होस्टल | 30,000 | 74,000 |
| कुल | 4,00,000 | 1,49,000 |

विद्युत-चालित करघों के कपड़े का निर्यात

939. श्री रंगा खरब बीजित : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) वर्ष 1975-76 के दौरान विद्युत-चालित करघों के कपड़े का कुल कितना निर्यात किया गया; और

(ख) क्या पश्चिम एशिया तथा मॉडिन अमरीका में इसके लिये नई मंडियों की खोज की सम्भावनाओं का पता लगाया गया है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उत्तरांत्री (श्री वि. इन्दुनाथ प्रसाद सिंह) : (क) 1975-76 (दिसम्बर 1975 तक) के दौरान विद्युत 2992 LS-4.

चालित करघों के 1.30 करोड़ पये मूल्य के कपड़े का निर्यात होने का अनुमान है।

(ख) पश्चिम एशिया तथा मॉडिन अमरीका सहित विदेशी मंडियों में हमारे सुने वस्त्रों के लिए, जिसमें विद्युत चालित करघों का कपड़ा भी शामिल है, नई मंडियों का पता लगाना एक मतन् प्रक्रिया है।

मध्य प्रदेश में बैंक लाकरों की तलाशी

940. श्री रंगा खरब बीजित : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1975 के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश में किन-किन व्यक्तियों के बैंक लाकरों की तलाशी ली गई;

(ख) प्रत्येक मामले में कितने मूल्य के जेवरान, मोता बरामद किया गया; और

(ग) दोषी पाये गये व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्यमंत्री (श्री प्रणब कुमार मुखर्जी) : (क) में (ग) मध्य प्रदेश में आयकर प्राधिकारियों द्वारा 1975 में ली गई, बैंक लाकरों की तलाशियों के सम्बन्ध में आवश्यक सूचना सभापतल पर रखे गए अनुबन्ध-1 में दी गई है। [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT 10477/76]

मध्य प्रदेश में स्वर्ण नियंत्रण प्राधिकारियों द्वारा 1975 में ली गई, बैंक लाकरों की तलाशियों के सम्बन्ध में सूचना सभापतल पर रखे गए अनुबन्ध II में दी गई है। [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT 10477/76]

विदेशी मुद्रा प्रवर्तन प्राधिकारियों ने 1975 में मध्य प्रदेश में किसी बैंक लाकर की तलाशी नहीं ली।

प्रश्न के अंग (क), (ख) और (ग) के बारे में, संगो-मुक्त अधिनियम से सम्बन्धित सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और तब पाल एर रख दी जायेगी।

20 सूत्री आर्थिक कार्यक्रम को क्रियान्वित करने के लिये मध्य प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा दिया गया ऋण

941. श्री संगो चरण दीक्षित : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि प्रथम मन्त्री के 20 सूत्री आर्थिक कार्यक्रम को क्रियान्वित करने के लिए वर्ष 1975-76 के दौरान राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों ने मध्य प्रदेश में निर्धन ग्रामीण लोगों को कितनी राशि का ऋण दिया ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्यमंत्री (श्री प्रणव कुमार मुन्शी) : ये विभिन्न प्रकार के प्राकट्य जिन का मैं मांगे गये हैं उनमें उल्लेख नहीं है। किन्तु 20 सूत्री कार्यक्रम के कार्यक्रम में सरकार बैंकों के सभी बैंकों द्वारा कई ऋण योजनाएं बनायी गई हैं ताकि कार्यक्रम में शामिल किये गये आर्थिक दृष्टि से कमजोर वर्गों को अधिक उदार और गिरावटी दरों पर वित्तिय सहायता दी जा सके। इनमें महात्ता की ये योजनाएं शामिल हैं। (1) सरकार से भूमि पाने वाले भूमिहीन मजदूरों को खेती करने प्रथम प्रथम इनमें सम्बन्धित प्रथम करने के लिये सहायता, (2) भूमिहीन मजदूरों, छोटे किसानों और गिरावटी में ऋण की वसूली पर रोक लगाये जाने में उत्पन्न हुए ऋण प्रसार को पूरा करने और प्रमाण कर्जदारों को समाप्त करने के कार्यक्रम के क्रमिक कार्यक्रम के लिये सहायता, (3) मुक्त हुए बंधन मजदूरों को, उनके पुनर्वास के प्रयत्न उत्पन्न उद्योगों में सहायता, (4) हथकरघा बुत्तरों और गिरावटी बुत्तरों को सहायता, और (5) गिरावटी बुत्तरों को, आवश्यक वस्तुओं के वितरण के लिये

उचित दर दुकान स्वस्थ करने जैसे राजगार शुरू करने में सहायता। इनके प्रतिरिक्त बैंकों ने बिजली ब्याज दर योजना एस० एफ० डी० ए०/एम० एफ० डी० ए० अधिकरणों, कृषक सेवा समितियों आदि जैसी वर्तमान योजनाओं के प्रधीन की जाने वाली सहायता को बढ़ाने के भी उपाय किये हैं।

Export of Cotton by State Cooperative Marketing Federation

942. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to allow Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation to export 35,000 bales comprising mainly damaged second grade cotton of last year's stock is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, at what stage the proposal stands; and

(c) the likely time involved in clearing the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The detailed particulars of the cotton sought to be exported have not so far been received from the Maharashtra State Cooperative Marketing Federation.

Income Tax on Recurring Deposits

943. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 10 year cumulative time deposits in Post Offices are free from income tax;

(b) whether recurring deposits for the same period in nationalised banks are subject to income tax; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to extend exemption to recurring deposits in nationalised banks also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) Sums deposited by an individual out of this income chargeable to tax in a ten-year account under the Post Office Savings Bank (Cumulative Time Deposit) Rules, 1959 qualify for deduction under section 80C of the Income-tax Act, 1961 in computing the total income of the depositor.

(b) Sums deposited in recurring accounts with nationalised banks do not qualify for deduction under section 80C of the Income-tax Act.

(c) Government do not propose to extend the tax concession under section 80C of the Income-tax Act to recurring deposits with nationalised banks.

Conference of Ministers-in-Charge of Handloom Development in States

944 SHRI C JANARDHANAN
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether he had convened a high-level Conference of Ministers-in-charge of Handloom Development in States to review the progress made in the implementation of the 20-Point Economic Programme regarding handloom sector, and

(b) if so the main features and the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Conference was held in New Delhi on the 18th February, 1976. It was inaugurated by the Prime Minister and was attended by Ministers-in-Charge of Handloom Development in States and Union Territories. The major aspects of handloom development, with particular re-

ference to the following, were discussed at the Conference:—

- (1) Laying down a sound infrastructure for the development programmes;
- (2) Effective enforcement of the reservation orders in favour of handloom sector.
- (3) Ensuring regular and adequate availability of inputs;
- (4) Revitalisation of dormant societies and expansion of co-operative coverage;
- (5) Marketing of handloom products;
- (6) New Development schemes under the 20-Point Programme;
- (7) Measures to develop exports; and
- (8) Arrangements for review and monitoring of programme

The Conference has given broad guidelines for the programme of work to be undertaken. Already, thirteen intensive Development Projects—one in each State with handloom population of 40,000 or more and 29 Export Production Projects in different parts of India have been approved in principle for implementation.

Impact of cut in U.S. Aid to World Bank

945 SHRI C JANARDHANAN:
SHRI C K CHANDRAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the United States of America has decided to cut its contribution to World Bank,

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) to what extent will it affect our economy and development projects; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, when the 4th Replenishment of IDA (World Bank's soft lending affiliate) for US \$4.5 billion was agreed to in Nairobi in 1973, the United States pledged a contribution of \$1.5 billion or a third of the total as compared to their contribution of \$960 million or 40 per cent of the 3rd Replenishment of \$2.4 billion. While considering authorisation of the first of the four annual instalments of \$375 million each towards the 4th Replenishment, the United States House of Representatives has voted a reduction of \$55 million. A final decision will emerge only after deliberations in the Senate.

(c) No significant effect on India's economy and development projects is expected.

(d) Does not arise.

Schemes Formulated by Nationalised Banks to benefit S. C. and S. T.

946. **SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes formulated and implemented by each of the nationalised banks to benefit the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society from 1st April, 1975 to 1st March, 1976; and

(b) the total amount of loan disbursed by each bank to the above categories of people, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) Public sector banks have been implementing a variety of schemes to provide credit assistance to the weaker sections of the community, including members belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. For persons having cultivable land or allotted new land, banks have endeavoured to provide finance for cultivation as also for improving land and irrigation. Banks have also provided credit assistance for purchase of milch animals, bullock carts or other inputs required for undertaking endeavours in agriculture and allied fields. In the context of the steps being taken by Government for liquidation of rural indebtedness under the 20-Point Economic Programme, public sector banks are devoting greater attention to the provision of adequate credit to the rural poor on on-going schemes as well as on the schemes specifically formulated as part of the Programme.

(b) The present system of data compilation does not provide for categorisation of advances according to the Castes of the borrowers. However, bankwise information relating to the number of accounts financed by public sector banks and the amount outstanding under the Differential Interest Rate Scheme which aims at providing credit assistance to weaker sections of society including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is set out in the Statement attached.

Statement

Number of Borrowal Accounts and amount outstanding of Public Sector Banks under the differential rates of Interest Scheme as at the end of September, 1975

| | | (Rs. Lakhs) | |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| | | No. of Borrowal Accounts | Amount outstanding |
| A | State Bank of India | 144299 | 641.32 |
| B | Subsidiaries of SBI | 36001 | 128.22 |

| | | (Rs. Lakhs) | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | No. of Borrowal Accounts | Amount out- standing |
| C. Nationalised Banks | | | |
| 1. | Central Bank of India | 14537 | 63.48 |
| 2. | Bank of India | 14896 | 73.98 |
| 3. | Punjab National Bank | 20954 | 145.39 |
| 4. | Bank of Baroda | 12676 | 86.35 |
| 5. | United Commercial Bank | 12403 | 59.86 |
| 6. | Canara Bank | 37314 | 125.46 |
| 7. | United Bank of India | 12881 | 43.70 |
| 8. | Dena Bank | 6374 | 22.51 |
| 9. | Syndicate Bank | 30302 | 134.81 |
| 10. | Union Bank of India | 29086 | 143.39 |
| 11. | Allahabad Bank | 1570 | 6.07 |
| 12. | Bank of Maharashtra | 6561 | 28.88 |
| 13. | Indian Bank | 7378 | 29.80 |
| 14. | Indian Overseas Bank | 4685 | 19.19 |
| Total (A+B+C) | | 391917 | 1752.41 |

Banking Service Commission

947. SHRI S M SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Banking Service Commission has since been constituted; and

(b) if so, the composition thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Banking Service Commission has not yet been established.

R.S.S. Infiltration in Banks

948. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the news report dated 21st February, 1976 that R.S.S. boys are infiltrating in non-nationalised banks on a large scale; and

(b) if so, action proposed by Government to check such R.S.S. infiltration in banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Government have seen an article in the Weekly "Current" dated the 21st February, 1976 which refers to this matter.

(b) Necessary vigilance is being maintained in this regard and appropriate action under the law is taken against those found involved in the activities of the banned organisations.

रिजर्व बैंक आफ इण्डिया तथा अन्य बैंकों द्वारा कृषि ऋण दिया जाना

949. श्री शंकर बघाल सिंह: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रिजर्व बैंक आफ इण्डिया तथा अन्य बैंकों द्वारा, अलग-अलग विभिन्न राज्यों को कृषि ऋण के रूप में 31 जनवरी, 1976 तक कितनी-कितनी राशि दी गई; और

(ख) किन राज्यों ने इस बारे में निर्धारित लक्ष्य के अनुसार इस ऋण का उपयोग नहीं किया है ?

राजस्व और बैंकिंग विभाग के प्रभारी राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रणब कुमार मल्लवी) :
(क) और (ख) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक और वाणिज्यिक बैंक, कृषि ऋण राज्य सरकारों के माध्यम से नहीं देते। भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक अल्पावधि ऋण सुविधा राज्य सहकारी बैंकों को मुनभ कराता है ताकि वे मौसमी कृषि कार्यों का वित्त पोषण कर सकें। रिजर्व बैंक अनुमोदित कृषि कार्यों के लिए मध्यावधि ऋण भी उपलब्ध करता है जो कि अंततः केन्द्रिय सहकारी बैंकों और प्राथमिक कृषि सहकारी ऋण समितियों के माध्यम से कृषकों तक पहुंचता है। भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा विभिन्न राज्य सहकारी बैंकों को 1975-76 (जुलाई, 1975 से 31 जनवरी, 1976 तक) स्वीकृत अल्पावधि ऋण सीमाओं और इन सीमाओं के उपयोग की मात्रा के राज्यवार आंकड़े सभा पटल पर रखे गए अनुबन्ध I में प्रस्तुत हैं। राज्य सहकारी बैंकों को 1975 में (इस कलेंडर वर्ष के आंकड़े उपलब्ध हैं) स्वीकृत मध्यावधि ऋणों और उनमें से किये

गये आहरणों (ड्रावल्स) का निचरण सभा पटल पर रखे गए अनुबन्ध II में है। कृषकों को दिये गये कुल कृषि ऋणों की बकाया की जून, 1975 के अन्त की राज्यवार स्थिति सभा पटल पर रखे गए अनुबन्ध III में प्रस्तुत की गयी है। [आवाज: लय में रखे गए।] रेकॉर्ड संख्या एल० डी०—10478/76।

वाणिज्यिक बैंकों द्वारा ऋण देने के सम्बन्ध में कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किये जाते हैं।

‘मिटको’ द्वारा अन्न की खरीद

950. श्री शंकर बघाल सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अन्नक व्यापार निगम अन्नक की खरीद में छोटे व्यापारियों से आम खरीदने को प्राथमिकता देता है ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो गत छः महीनों के दौरान ‘मिटको’ ने छोटे अन्नक व्यापारियों से कितने रुपये का आम खरीदा है,

(ग) क्या अन्नक की खरीद के लिये ‘मिटको’ द्वारा किसी नीति का निर्धारण भी हुआ है, और

(घ) यदि हा, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपस्थित (श्री विश्वनाथ प्रताप सिंह) : (क) जी हाँ। यह अन्नक की खरीद के मामले में अन्नक व्यापार के कमजोर वर्ग को प्राथमिकता देता है।

(ख) लगभग 1.25 करोड़ रु०।

(ग) जी हाँ।

(घ) प्रकृत व्यापार निगम की खरीद नीति 28 जुलाई, 1975 के उनके व्यापार परिपत्र में निर्धारित की गई है, जिसमें एक प्रति सभा पटल पर रख दी गयी है। [समय सय में रखी गयी।] बेलिये संख्या एल० टी० 10479/76)

Development of Chandka Forest Area for Wild-Life Tourism

951. **SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are a good number of elephants in Chandka forest areas a few miles from Bhubaneswar; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to develop it for wild-life tourism by preserving these elephants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes. We are aware that elephants are occasionally found in the Chandka Forest.

(b) Government has no proposal at present for the development of this particular area for wild life tourism.

S. T. C.'s Export Development Fund

952. **SHRI D. D. DESAI:**
SHRI VASANT SATHE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export development fund created by the State Trading Corporation has remained unutilised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Details regarding procedure, criteria, etc., for giving assistance from Export Development Fund were finalised towards the end of 1975. Several requests have been received for assistance and these are being processed in accordance with the scheme.

Help given by Nationalised Banks to Boost Export Efforts

953. **SHRI D. D. DESAI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the help given by nationalised banks to push up export efforts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Export credit being a high priority item, public sector banks have been providing funds for financing exports on liberal scale and at concessional terms. Their outstanding advances in respect of export credit as at the end of December 1973, 1974 and 1975 were as follows:

Outstanding advances
of Public Sector
Banks by way of ex-
port credit
(Rs in crores.)

End-December 1973 550

End-December 1974 610

End-December 1975 698

The minimum lending rate for advances stipulated by R.B.I. is not applicable to export credit. Banks, including the public sector banks charge

concessional rate of interest on pre-shipment credit, post-shipment credit and for financing exports on deferred payment terms for the duration and within the maximum rates specified by R.B.I. Where pre-shipment or post-shipment credit is required to be extended beyond the period stipulated for concessional ceiling rates of interest, RBI has advised the banks to charge a reasonable and as low a rate of interest as possible, taking into account the priority character of export credit.

Apart from providing working capital finance to units engaged in exports or units engaged in manufacturing for exports, banks have been giving added attention in respect of term finance to industries where a substantial part of the output is meant for exports or where new potential for exports can be quickly built up.

Effective from February 1, 1976 a new scheme entitled Duty Draw Back Credit Scheme has been introduced under which banks grant advances to exporters against their entitlements for Duty Drawbacks as provisionally certified by the Customs authorities. Since banks obtain refinance for these advances from Reserve Bank of India free of interest for a period of 90 days they in turn provide these advances to the exporters free of interest up to a period of 90 days.

Banks have also been permitted to issue bid bonds and performance guarantees in respect of deferred payment contracts up to the value of less than Rs. 50 lakhs where the credit period does not exceed 5 years.

Since August 1975, pre-shipment credit facilities are also extended to firms exporting consultancy services for meeting the expenses of technical and other staff employed for the project and purchase of any materials required for the purpose as also guarantee facilities.

"Operation Credit Flood" in Rural Areas

954. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether regional rural banks have been told to launch the "Operation credit flood" in rural areas;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) whether this would cover loans to rural clients for non-productive purposes also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The Regional Rural Banks have been asked to provide finance for all productive ventures of the small/marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans, etc. in their respective areas of operation. They have also been instructed to provide limited quantities of consumption loans for meeting contingent expenditure relating to the educational and medical requirements of their clientele.

Credit Squeeze

955. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the "Credit squeeze" in force for more than a year and reinforced just before the current busy season has been far from effective;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much bank credit was advanced during the busy season in both food and non-food sections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The credit restraint policy, with emphasis on selectivity, has

contributed a great deal to the containment of inflationary pressures and bringing about price stability. During the current busy season, the broad framework of this policy is being retained with selective liberalisation, with the objective of stimulating industrial production.

(c) During the current busy season upto February 27 1973, gross bank credit increased by Rs. 1174 crores, of which credit for public food procurement accounted for Rs. 599 crores. During the corresponding period of 1974-75 busy season, gross bank credit increased by Rs. 690 crores, of which credit for public food procurement was of the order of Rs. 189 crores.

Import and Export Trade with U.S.A.

956. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state—

(a) the latest pattern of the import and export trade with U.S.A.;

(b) whether the export trade with U.S.A. is on the decline and if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the position?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) In 1974-75 U.S.A. accounted for about 11.4 per cent of our exports and about 16.3 per cent of our imports. The major items of our exports to USA were jute goods, cotton textiles, cashew kernels, sugar, fish and pearls, precious and semi-precious stones while the main items of our imports from USA consisted of wheat, fertilizers, machinery (electrical and non-electrical) and transport equipment.

(b) No, Sir. Our total exports to the USA in 1971-75 were of the order of Rs. 375.79 crores as against Rs. 345.92 crores in 1973-74 and Rs. 275.74 crores in 1972-73.

(c) While our exports to the USA have constantly been increasing since 1971-72, Government have taken various steps for promotion of our exports to that country such as participation in the specialised trade fairs, sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams/delegations, conducting of market surveys, holding of a Buyers-Sellers Meet etc.

Assistance given by nationalised banks and Financial Institutions to small and medium entrepreneurs

957. DR. RANEN SEN. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks and financial institutions have decided to take steps to liberalise the assistance towards the large number of small and medium entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) how many small and medium entrepreneurs were given such assistance in 1974-75 and 1975-76?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b). In keeping with the accepted policy to encourage small entrepreneurs, commercial banks, including public sector banks have evolved schemes for assisting small scale industries and small entrepreneurs.

Public sector banks have also formulated special schemes for financing craftsmen and technical entrepreneurs. Under these schemes, banks show special consideration in respect of security, margin, rate of interest, repayment schedule etc. In deserving cases and if the amount of accommodation needed is small, banks consider extension of financial assistance without any margin and also grant clean advances.

State Bank of India and some of the nationalised banks offer financial assistance on liberal terms to manufacturing and processing industries set up in selected areas under Rural Industries Projects, which provide package deal covering consultancy and other assistance to the existing and prospective entrepreneurs for setting up new industries and expanding existing units.

Reserve Bank of India has issued instructions to banks to adopt need-based approach and consider totality of the requirements of small borrowers while sanctioning credit for such borrowers.

Industrial Development Bank of India provides refinance at concessional rate of interest to State Financial Corporations and commercial banks for financing small and medium industries. Measures like acceptance of equitable mortgage in place of registered mortgage, provision of consultancy service and stipulation of lower margin in deserving cases have helped small and medium entrepreneurs.

(c) The available data are set out in the Statement laid on the Table of the House.
[Placed on Library See No. LT-10480 76].

Rupee payment agreements

958. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with which rupee payment agreements are still in vogue;

(b) whether they apply in general terms or only to particular items of export and import; and

(c) how does the balance of payments position stand with each such country at the end of 31st December, 1975?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) *Arab Republic of Egypt.
**U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic and North Korea.

(b) *This trade Agreement relates to particular items specified therein for export from each country. However, trade in these items over and above the levels specified in the Trade Agreement and in items not specified therein is also permitted and in such cases, the payments are in free foreign exchange.

**General in terms of all Trade Exchanges.

(c) No information about India's balance of payments with Arab Republic of Egypt and Sudan is available. However, technical credit outstanding as on 31-12-75 in favour of India under Indo-Sudan Trade Arrangement it was ₹ 7,475,000 whereas under the Indo-A.R.E. Trade Arrangement it was NIL.

In case of Yugoslavia it may be stated that a surplus balance of Rs. 15.7 crores in favour of Yugoslavia is to be liquidated by exports of goods from India within the special list of commodities to be mutually agreed. The list is to contain at least 50 per cent of non-traditional goods.

Opening of branches of banks

959. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many branches of banks were opened in the rural areas during the last three years and what is the percentage to the rural population; and

(b) what is the impact of institutional lending in rural areas in meeting the challenge of dependence of rural population on the money lenders and how far the concept of banking has changed from "Class-banking" to "Mass-banking"?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that commercial banks opened 706, 624 and 791 branches at rural centres (centres having population of less than 10,000) during 1973, 1974 and 1975 respectively.

Since bank branches located not only at rural centres but also at semi-urban and in some cases at urban centres, provide coverage to the adjoining rural areas, it is not possible to work out separately the population per bank office for rural areas. However, the population per bank office for the country as a whole has been brought down from 33,000 in 1973 to 30,000 in 1974 and further to 27,000 in 1975.

(b) Since nationalisation, public sector banks have been making greater effort for meeting the credit requirements of small borrowers in critical sectors such as agriculture, small scale and cottage industries, small road and water transport operators, retail trade and small business, artisans and craftsmen etc. Their direct finance to farmers has increased from Rs. 40 crores in June 1969 to Rs 576 crores in September 1975. The number of borrowal accounts directly financed by these banks in the agricultural sector has increased from 1.6 lakhs to 24 lakhs over this period. In the context of the 20-point programme, which inter alia envisages liquidation of rural indebtedness, public sector banks are evolving special schemes to assist the beneficiaries of the administrative and legislative action taken by Government, particularly those

connected with the extension of credit to the weaker sections in the rural areas. Public sector banks are also sponsoring regional rural banks in underdeveloped and underbanked areas so as to meet the credit needs of small and marginal farmers and rural artisans in an increasing measure.

Formula for the grant of relief to pensioners

960. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Third Pay Commission has recommended a formula for the grant of relief to pensioners;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof and the extent to which the relief has so far been offered to pensioners vis-a-vis the regular Government employees; and

(c) whether the full relief has not so far been sanctioned to pensioners and if so, when it is likely to be sanctioned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c). The Third Pay Commission recommended the grant of relief to pensioners as and when there is a 16-point rise in the 12-monthly average of the all India Working Class Consumer Price Index (1960-100), the relief for the first time being paid when the index average reaches 216. On this basis, three instalments of relief have already been granted. Covering the index average up to 248. The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech has also announced, keeping in view the resources available, an additional ad hoc relief of 10 per cent of pension, subject to a minimum of Rs. 10 and a maximum of Rs. 50 p.m. w.e.f. 1st October, 1975.

Discussions with U.S. team

961. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. team headed by Mr. Orville L. Freeman wanted to have a treaty between India and U.S.A. on the avoidance of double taxation and reduction in tax rates;

(b) whether the U.S. team also wanted some modifications in our Foreign Exchange Regulation Act; and

(c) if so, the particulars thereof and Government's reaction to the points raised by the U.S. team?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) The U.S. team headed by Mr. Orville L. Freeman, which visited India in February, 1976 in connection with the meeting of the Indo-US Joint Business Council, suggested that the two Governments should enter into a treaty on avoidance of double taxation.

(b) No Sir. They only wanted certain clarifications and a flexible approach in the implementation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

(c) An agreement for the avoidance of double taxation is already under negotiation between the two Governments. The views expressed by the U.S. team have been noted.

Participation in exhibition in London

962. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to participate in the exhibition of developing countries to be held in London sometime in October next at World Trade Centre; and

(b) the terms and conditions of India's participation in the said exhibition?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) The organisers of the Exhibition have been requested to clarify certain details of the financial assistance etc. being extended by them.

**केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिये
प्रतिवार्य जमा योजना**

963. श्री रामावतार साहू : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारियों का 50 प्रतिशत महंगाई भत्ता उनके वेतन से कटौती करके प्रतिवार्य जमा योजना में जमा किया जा रहा है;

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार के आदेशों के अनुसार उक्त योजना की प्रवधि प्रागामी जून प्रपंचा जुलाई में समाप्त हो रही है, और

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) और (ख) का उत्तर 'हां' में है तो क्या सरकार का विचार प्रागामी जून प्रपंचा जुलाई से इस योजना को समाप्त करके कर्मचारियों को महंगाई भत्ते की पूरी राशि तथा पहिले से कटौती की गई राशि 50 प्रतिशत की राशि नकद देने का है ?

वित्त बंधी (श्री सी० सुब्रह्मण्यम)

(क) जी हां।

(ख) जी हां। प्रतिरिक्त उपलब्धियां (प्रतिवार्य निक्षेप) अधिनियम, 1974 की वर्तमान धाराओं के अनुसार उक्त स्कीम की प्रवधि 6 जुलाई, 1976 को समाप्त हो रही है। तथापि जैसाकि बजट भाषण में बताया गया है, प्रतिरिक्त महंगाई भत्ते की प्रतिवार्य जमा की प्रवधि को एक वर्ष तक और आगे बढ़ाने का विचार है।

(घ) जी, नहीं। जुलाई 1976 तक जमा कराई गई प्रतिरिक्त महंगाई धत्ते की राशि जुलाई 1976 से शुरू करके बराबर-बराबर की पांच वार्षिक किस्तों में धरा की जायेगी जैसी कि अधिनियम में व्यवस्था की गई है।

पूर्वी राज्यों का तात्कालिक अधिवेशन

964. श्री राजाधरार शास्त्री : क्या पर्यटन और मात्तर विमानन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या 12 फरवरी, 1976 को भुवनेश्वर में देश के पूर्वी राज्यों का कोई साप्ताहिक अधिवेशन हुआ था;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या अधिवेशन के समापन समारोह में बोले हुए उन्होंने राज्य सरकारों से पर्यटन मन्त्रालय से विचार-विमर्श कर आन्तरिक पर्यटन के समन्वित विकास के लिये एक योजना बनाने की अपील की थी;

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार का विचार इस बारे में राज्य सरकारों को कोई सहायता देने का है; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

पर्यटन और मात्तर विमानन मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश साह सिंह): (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) जी, हाँ।

(ग) श्री (घ): मैं तत्सम्बन्धी पांचवी योजना के प्रलेख के मात्तर में उत्तरदायित्व के मोटे बटवारे के अनुसार केन्द्र सरकार उन पश्चिमी राज्यों पर और कार्यक्रमों पर खर्च करेगी जिनका मूलतः सम्बन्ध आन्तरिक पर्यटन अधिवृद्धि से है जबकि राज्य सरकारें आन्तरिक पर्यटन सम्बन्धी सुविधाओं का

विकास अपने संसाधनों से करेंगी। राज्य क्षेत्र में पर्यटन सम्बन्धी विकास योजनाओं के लिये 35.89 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की गई है। राज्य क्षेत्र में की गयी अध्ययन-कार्य का उद्देश्य मुख्यतः देशीय पर्यटकों एवं तीर्थ यात्रियों के लिये सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था करना है। पुनर्वासि स्वरूप परम्परागत कार्यवाहियों से बचने की दृष्टि से पर्यटन विभाग योजना प्रलेख, वार्षिक योजनाओं आदि को अन्तिम रूप प्रदान करने के लिये आयोजित किये गये विचार-विमर्श के मात्तर परम्परा उचित समन्वय की व्यवस्था करना है।

Export target for 1976-77

965 SHRI SARJOO PANDEY.
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed a highly ambitious export target of Rs 5000 crores for the year 1976-77;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to attain this target?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) to (c). The task of formulation of export target for 1976-77 has been initiated. Due account will be taken of the various internal and external factors while fixing the export target. All necessary measures will also be taken for realisation of the export target fixed for the year.

Development of Handloom Industry

966 SHRI SARJOO PANDEY.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State-wise targets for development of Handloom Industry has been prepared; and

(b) if so, the allocation and target therefor for Bihar, U.P., West Bengal, Assam and Orissa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) and (b). While no State-wise targets for the development of handloom industry have been prepared, the Government in consultation with the State Governments programmes have been initiated programmes for—

- (1) Increasing the cooperative coverage from the existing 30 per cent to 60 per cent;
- (2) Modernisation of handlooms.
- (3) Strengthening the technical and technological base of the handloom industry;
- (4) Providing adequate supply of inputs at reasonable prices.
- (5) Provision of improved credit facilities, in
- (6) Providing more marketing outlets, and in
- (7) Setting up of Intensive Development and Export Production Projects

These are either under consideration or implementation. For the time being, one Intensive Development Project for each State with more than 40,000 handlooms, i.e., in all 13 such Projects as well as 20 Export Production Projects in different parts of India have already been approved in principle for implementation. Bihar, U.P., West Bengal, Assam and Orissa are among the States which will have one Intensive Development Project and one Export Production Project each.

Development of Konark as an International Tourist Centre

967 **SHRI D. K. PANDA:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state—

(a) the time bound programme envisaged for development of Konark as

an international tourist centre under the master plan of the area;

(b) the progress so far made in building tourism infrastructure there; and

(c) the additional steps if any taken for the protection and preservation of monument, there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c). Whereas the preservation of the monument at Konark is the responsibility of the Archaeological Survey of India, the Department of Tourism is concerned

with ensuring that the natural setting of the Sun Temple at Konark is not disturbed through haphazard growth around the monument resulting in environmental distortion. To ensure this the Department commissioned the Town and Country Planning Organisation of Union Ministry of Works and Housing to prepare Master Plan (Land Use Plan) which is a pre-requisite to undertaking allowing developmental activities around this monument. The Master Plan is under preparation and as soon as it is finalised, the responsibilities for implementing the developmental programme will be assigned to the concerned authorities in consultation with Archaeological Survey of India and the State Government.

In the earlier Plan periods, the Department of Tourism constructed a tourist bungalow at Konark which is now being run as a Travellers Lodge by India Tourism Development Corporation. In addition, the State Government operates a Tourist Bungalow.

Development of tourism as a National Industry

968 **SHRI D. K. PANDA:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop tourism as a national industry; and

(b) If so, whether Government propose to create All India Service Cadre in this regard for providing requisite managerial talent, both at the Centre and State level in order to project an unified image of India among international tourists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Tourism is already a developing national industry. It earned Rs. 104 crore in foreign exchange in 1975 and our foreign exchange earnings from tourism are steadily rising. According to a recent survey done by the National Council of Applied Economic Research, tourism provided employment to 8,33,766 persons in 1972-73.

Tourism is the 10th largest foreign exchange earning industry in the country.

(b) Tourism is a highly specialised and technical industry with varied facets i.e., catering technology, hoteliering, publicity promotion, travel agency business, aviation, road and rail transportation, etc. It is not easy to create a unified All India Service Cadre to provide managerial talent to meet the requirements of various facets of tourism industry.

Department of Tourism has acquired specialised skill in providing training in tourism promotion to both Central and State Officers. Training programmes are held to provide tourism training to State and Central Officers at New Delhi as well as other regional centres like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

It is also proposed to start a Central Institute of Tourism Training in the near future providing training to tourism personnel both in public and private sectors.

Earnings of L.I.C. from Bihar

969. **SHRI G. P. YADAV:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total earnings of the Life Insurance Corporation from Bihar upto December, 1975 by way of premium; and

(b) the district-wise break up of the amount allocated by this Corporation for the same period for the uplift of backward classes and areas in Bihar State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The total earnings of the L.I.C. through its Divisions located in Bihar from 1-4-75 to 31-12-1975 by way of premium amounted to Rs. 1180 crores.

(b) During this period the L.I.C. invested Rs. 833 lakhs in the form of subscriptions to the issues of and loans to Bihar Government and other State level statutory Corporations and agencies in that State. They alone decide district-wise allocation of funds in which the L.I.C. has no say.

In addition, loans amounting to Rs. 80 lakhs and Rs. 390 lakhs were given to private Sector Companies situated in the Districts of Singhbhum and Jamshedpur respectively.

बिहार में पर्यटन का विकास

970. **श्री जलेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :** क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय यह बनाते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार राज्य में पर्यटन विकास के लिये बौद्ध गया, नागन्दा एम्प गजनी जैसे पर्यटन केन्द्रों को विकसित करने के लिये वर्ष 1975-76 में कितनी राशि खर्च की गई; और

(ख) बाबाजी बर्से में उक्त के नों के विकास के लिये कितनी राशि निर्धारित की जाने वाली है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र कल सिंह) : (क) 1975-76 के दौरान बौद्ध गया, राँगीर तथा नालन्दा में पर्यटक सुविधाओं के विकास पर कोई व्यय नहीं किया गया है, क्योंकि पहले तो बौद्ध गया में अक्षत भूमि राज्य सरकार द्वारा अभी अधिग्रहण की जानी है और दो पर्यटन विभाग को स्थानान्तरित किया जाना है, तथा दूसरे राजगीर और नालन्दा का मास्टर प्लानों को अन्तिम रूप अभी दिया जा रहा है, तथा उनके पूरा हो जाने पर ही इन स्थानों पर आवश्यक सुविधाओं का विकास किया जाएगा।

(ख) 1976-77 के लिए, पर्यटन विभाग के सांस्कृतिक पर्यटन कार्यक्रम के लिए जांचे कि अन्तर्गत चुने हुए बौद्ध केन्द्रों एवं पर्यटक रुचि के अन्य पुरातात्विक स्थलों पर सुविधाओं के विकास का प्रस्ताव है, बजट प्रस्ताव में 16.50 लाख रुपये की व्यवस्था करने का सुझाव दिया गया है।

Appointment of District Level consultative Councils/Advisory Bodies

971. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to appoint district level Consultative Councils/Advisory Bodies, consisting among others, of M.P.s. and M.L.As. of the Districts, for involving banks in the implementation of the 20-Point Economic Programme in general and the sanction of loans in particular so as to ensure justice to the weaker sections of society and the

unemployed youth striving to stand up on their feet through self-employment schemes; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) and (b). Public sector banks are actively participating in the implementation of the 20-Point Economic Programme. Their support to the Programme is largely by way of provision of adequate credit to beneficiaries of measures taken by the Central and State Governments in different spheres enumerated in the 20-Point Programme. They are also helping self-employment ventures of unemployed youth through their on-going schemes as also by extending financial support to the implementation of the employment promotion programme formulated by State Governments. Performance of public sector banks in these spheres is kept under constant review by their Boards of Directors, Reserve Bank of India and Government of India. District Consultative Committees set up under the Lead Bank Scheme are also expected, *inter alia*, to review the performance of the banks in providing support to the 20-Point Economic Programme. While there is no proposal to constitute separate District-level consultative councils/advisory bodies, the question of associating non-officials with the District Consultative Committee has been under examination of Government and the Reserve Bank, following a recommendation made in this regard by the Estimates Committee of Parliament. It has been decided that besides continuing association of non-officials in some of the District Consultative Committees in some States, where it is already obtaining, in other States non-officials having specialised expertise in critical sectors of rural economy may be associated on an experimental basis with the District Consultative Committees in one district in each State.

Development of Ooty as a Tourist Centre by I.T.D.C.

972. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN-THAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ooty in Tamil Nadu is a very good Tourist attraction;

(b) if so, whether India Tourism Development Corporation has a proposal under consideration to take over this place for developing it as a tourist centre; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c). The Government is aware of the importance of Ooty as a tourist attraction. However, due mainly to constraint on resources and other priorities, no schemes are proposed to be taken up in the Central Sector at Ooty for the present.

Foreign Banks in the Country

973. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Foreign banks are working against the interest of our country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take against such foreign banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that no instance of foreign banks indulging in anti-national activities has come to its notice. The foreign banks operate within the frame work of general laws

of the country. More particularly the operations of the Indian branches of these banks are governed by the provisions of the Banking Regulations Act, the Reserve Bank of India Act, the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act and directions issued by Reserve Bank of India from time to time. The Reserve Bank has also reported that no serious violation of the provisions of these enactments/directions by these banks have come to its notice. Attention is also invited to reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 7535 answered on 25-4-1975.

Aircraft Ordered from Abroad

974. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number and types of aircraft at present in use by the Civil Aviation Department;

(b) the new aircraft ordered by Government from abroad during the last one year with their special features;

(c) the number and types of aircraft grounded and sold to other countries during the above period; and

(d) the profit earned by Government therefrom including foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Two, DC-3 aircraft owned by the Civil Aviation Department are being used by it.

(b) None, by the Civil Aviation Department.

(c) None, so far as Civil Aviation Department is concerned.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply to (c) above.

Janata Personal Accident Insurance Scheme

975. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a Janata Personal Accident Insurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) General insurance companies propose to introduce a Janata Personal Accident Insurance Scheme from April 1976.

(b) The salient features of this Scheme are as under —

- (1) The cover is provided against death, loss of one or two limbs, loss of one or two eyes and permanent total disability arising out of accident.
- (2) The sum assured is Rs. 10,000. However, for loss of one limb or one eye or for other forms of permanent disability, only 50 per cent of the sum assured is payable.
- (3) The premium is Rs. 12 per annum.
- (4) Hospitalisation expenses following accident are reimbursable upto Rs 200 per annum.
- (5) Only one policy can be taken by any one person.
- (6) The Scheme covers age group 16 to 60.

Development of Tourist Spots

976 SHRI R S PANDEY. Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to develop more tourist spots in the country for attracting more tourists; and

(b) if so, the names of the places to be developed during 1976?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). The development of tourism is a continuous process. The emphasis in the year 1976-77 will continue on building up of the tourist infrastructure (accommodation and transportation facilities), development of selected areas as mountain and beach resorts for attracting larger volume of destination tourist traffic, development of Cultural Tourism as represented by archaeological and historical monuments and the development of wild life tourism. For this purpose an outlay of Rs. 667.64 lakhs has been provided in the Central Sector for various tourism schemes to be taken up during 1976-77.

Scheme for the Progress of Handloom Industry

977. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the State Governments have been apprised of the scheme for the progress of Handloom Industry; and

(b) if so, whether they have approved the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The State Governments have agreed to undertake schemes for revitalisation and development of handloom industry on the lines indicated to them.

Increase in the Prices of Staple Yarn

978. SHRI P GANGADEB: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether staple yarn prices are being manipulated in various States of the country, specially in U.P.;

(b) whether Government have urged handloom and powerloom weavers to stabilise staple yarn prices; and

(c) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH)

(a) Government have no such information

(b) and (c) Representations have been received on behalf of handloom and powerloom weavers in certain Districts of UP against high prices of staple fibre spun yarn. Enquiries made reveal that there has been an increase in the price of staple fibre spun yarn during the last 4-5 months, the main reason being the increase in the price of staple fibre itself and the increased demand for yarn in the market. Government do not have any statutory measures to control the price of staple fibre spun yarn.

Conversion of Cochin Port Area into Free Trade Zone

980 **SHRI VARKEY GEORGE** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to convert the Cochin Port area into free trade zone and

(b) if so the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH)

(a) and (b) The State Government of Kerala had made a suggestion for setting up of a Free Trade Zone at Cochin. The suggestion was examined and it was decided that a feasibility study of the project should be undertaken. The Government of Kerala was advised accordingly. Meanwhile Government is also considering the overall concept and feasibility of having more Free Trade Zones in the country.

Export of Sub-standard Materials

981 **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Chief Executive of the Import Opportunities Office of the London Chamber of Commerce has urged the Indian exporters to pay greater attention to the quality of their products than to the price factor,

(b) whether the Indian exporters almost have the habit to ignore consumers satisfaction, and

(c) if so, the reasons why sub-standard materials are exported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) to (c) The Chief Executive of Import Opportunities of the London Chambers of Commerce had visited India and the keynote of his address at all the forums he has addressed was that the manufacturers and exporters from developing countries like India must put quality before price for and should apply the quality control measures applied for exports of goods for domestic demand also. He did not specially mention about the sub-standard quality of Indian goods.

The Government of India have taken various measures to improve the quality of goods exported from India. The special knowledge, experience and technical and administrative know-how of various agencies in the country in the field of grading, standardisation and inspection have been pooled together under the overall coordination of the Export Inspection Council so as to carry out the pre-shipment inspection in a most efficient and scientific manner. The present system of pre-shipment inspection covers most of our major exportable products.

Specific complaints regarding supply of sub standard goods are looked into

by the Government and appropriate action is taken.

Disclosures after 31st December, 1975

982. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the 31st December, 1975, some voluntary disclosures were made till the end of February 1976; and

(b) if so, the amount disclosed and its break up, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b): Disclosures under the recently concluded Voluntary Disclosure Scheme could be made only upto midnight of 31st December, 1975.

Information in respect of voluntary disclosures made u/s 273A of the Income-tax Act, 1961/18B of the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 from 1st January, 1976 till the end of February, 1976 is not readily available and will have to be collected from the Commissioners of Income-tax all over the country. If the Hon'ble Member desires information in respect of any particular Commissioner's charge, the same will be collected and furnished.

Agreement between India and Portugal

983. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Portugal have signed an important agreement under which Portugal will import Indian coffee, sugar, iron, tobacco, rice, leather and tanned hides and export fertilizers coke and chemical products; and

(b) whether our export to and import from that country is only a new feature?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b): No trade relations existed between Portugal and India since 1st August, 1967.

Recently at the request of the Government of Portugal, a trade delegation visited that country in the month of February, 1976, and had discussions with the Government of Portugal on trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. The draft agreement on trade and economic cooperation is actively under consideration of the Portuguese Government and is expected to be finalised during the coming months.

As a result of the Indo-Portuguese trade discussions the following items have been identified for exports to and import from Portugal:—

Items identified for exports to Portugal

1. Coffee
2. Sugar
3. Tobacco
4. Spices
5. Tea
6. Animal Casings
7. Animal feeds
8. Groundnuts Hps
9. Sea foods specially shrimps and sea dir es
10. Biscuits
11. Cashew kernel
12. Processed foods
13. Margosa
14. Coir Yarn and Mafg.

15. Jute manufactures
16. Raw cotton
17. Readymade garments particularly for c-
lhom garments.
18. National silk fabric and garments.
19. Electrical appliances and electric
components.
20. Auto parts.
21. Engineering items.
22. Iron & Steel primaries like slabs sheets
sheets plates pipes.
23. Chemicals and pharmaceuticals.
24. Finished and semi-finished leather.
25. Gems and Jewellery
26. Iron Ore.
27. Bitumen.

Items identified for imports from Portugal.

1. Cork wood and cork waste.
2. Tungston ore.
3. Urea
4. Certain chemicals like Tarteric Acid and Anipicilin Trihydrate.
5. Certain machinery items
6. Ships.

Betla National Park

984. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state-

(a) the number of tourists who visited Betla National Park during the last one year;

(b) the nature of accommodation available there; and

(c) whether there has been demand for extending the existing accommodation especially in view of the influx of tourist traffic during autumn and winter seasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH: (a) A total number of 16,600 visitors including foreigners and Indians visited Betla National Park during 1975.

(b) Accommodation totaling 34 beds is available in Tourist Lodge, Tourist Cottage, Janta Lodge and Forest Rest House.

(c) According to the Chief Conservator of Forest, Bihar, there is a demand for extending the existing accommodation during autumn and winter seasons.

जीवन बीमा पालिसियों का व्ययगत हो जाना

985. श्री हरि सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बनाने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वर्ष 1975 में लाखों जीवन बीमा पालिसियों प्रीमियम न दिये जाने के कारण व्ययगत करार कर दी गई हैं;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उनकी संख्या क्या है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार उन पालिसियों को फिर से चालू करने के लिये कोई नई नीति प्रपनाने का है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (जीवन बीमा सुचीला रोहतासी) (क) और (ख) 31 मार्च, 1975 को समाप्त होने वाले वर्ष में कुछ व्ययगत पालिसियों (प्रधान व्ययगत पालिसियों में से फिर से चालू की गई पालिसियाँ घटाकर बची पालिसियों) की संख्या 4 93 लाख थी जिनका कोई चुकना मूल्य नहीं था ।

(ग) पालिसियों को व्ययगत होने से बचाव रोकन की दृष्टि से सामान्य उपाय करने के प्रतिगमन जीवन बीमा निगम में व्ययगत पालिसियों को फिर से चालू करने की कार्याविधि को हाल ही में सुव्यवस्थित बना

दिया है। जो पालिसियाँ बिना कोई समर्पण ब्युत्पन्न अर्जित किए ही व्यपगत हो गई हैं उन्हें विशेष पुनः प्रवर्तन योजना के अधीन पुनः चालू किया जा सकता है। जिन मामलों में पालिसीधारी, प्रीमियमों की वसूली को एक मुश्त अदा करने की स्थिति में नहीं है, (और पालिसी को 'सुविधाओं' पर आधारित नहीं है), अधीन पुनः चालू नहीं किया जा सकता), उनमें किस्त पुनः प्रवर्तन योजना के अधीन पालिसी को पुनः चालू किया जा सकता है। विशेष अभियान के दौरान एन। पालिसियों को भी पालिसीधारी की स्वयं की घोषणा के आधार पर पुनः चालू किया जा सकता है जो छः महीने से एक वर्ष की अवधि तक व्यपगत रही थी।

फाइव स्टार होटलों में किराया और खाद्य पदार्थों की दरें

986. श्री हरी सिंह क्या क्वार्टर और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में सरकारी तथा गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्रों के अन्तर्गत चलाये जा रहे एक ही शहर में एक फाइव स्टार होटल के कमरे के किराये और खाद्य पदार्थों की दरें दूसरे फाइव स्टार होटल की दरों से भिन्न हैं और यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं, और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने इन दरों में एक-रूपता लाने के लिये कुछ उपाय मोचे हैं और यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी रूपरेखा क्या है ?

क्वार्टर और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री सुरेश चाल सिंह) (क) जी, हाँ। होटल में कमरों का किराया न केवल कमरों में बल्कि सम्पूर्ण होटल में प्रदान की जाने वाली सुविधाओं एवं सुख साधनों की विशेषता एवं प्रचुरता पर आधारित होता है। इसी प्रकार खाद्य पदार्थों की दरें भी प्रत्येक रेस्टोरेंट में भोजन की किस्म और वहाँ प्रदान की जाने वाली मनोरंजन, आदि जैसी अन्य सुविधाओं पर आधारित होती हैं।

परिणामस्वरूप, भिन्न-भिन्न होटलों में कमरों का किराया अथवा खाद्य पदार्थों की दरें, चाहे वे होटल सरकारी अथवा गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में हों, अथवा पाँच स्टार वर्ग में आते हों और एक ही शहर में स्थित हों, अलग अलग होती हैं।

(ख) एक ही स्टार वर्ग के होटलों में सुविधाओं एवं सुख साधनों तथा खाद्य पदार्थों में काफी विभिन्नता की गुंजाइश होने के कारण इन दरों में एक-रूपता लाना सम्भव नहीं है। तथापि ट्यूरिज्म विभाग द्वारा विदेशी पर्यटकों के लिये उपयुक्तता की दृष्टि से अनुमोदित होटलों में कमरों के किराये के अनुमोदन की एक बाकायदा प्रणाली है।

Plan to Promote Domestic Tourism

987. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any new plan to promote domestic tourism in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b): According to the broad division of responsibilities as outlined in the draft Fifth Plan document on Tourism, it is envisaged that the Centre would invest in projects which are intended primarily to stimulate international tourism with a view to earning foreign exchange, while the State Governments would concentrate on the development of facilities for domestic tourism. A provision of Rs. 35.89 crores exists in the Fifth Five Year Plan for the development of domestic tourism in the State Sector. This provision is meant for providing facilities primarily for domestic tourists and pilgrims. In order to avoid overlapping, the Department of Tourism ensures coordination at the time of discussions held to finalise the Annual plans etc.

Recruitment of Women in Tourism Departments

988. **SHRI HARI SINGH:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major part of employment created in 1974-75 by the Tourism Departments went to women candidates; and

(b) if so, their number, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b): Information is awaited from the State Tourism Departments. As far as the Central Tourism Department is concerned the position is that only 11 women were employed in Group B (non-gazetted)

and Group C posts out of a total recruitment of 48 persons made from 1st April, 1974 to 31st March, 1975 in Group B, Group C and Group D posts.

International Flights via Calcutta

989. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a common complaint of the tourists coming to India from Eastern side that they do not have adequate international flights for South-East and Far-East countries via Calcutta; and

(b) if so, what effective measures have been adopted by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b): No specific complaint has been received. At present, 15 weekly direct flights are being operated by foreign airline operators and Air India to Bangkok, Hongkong, Tokyo, Osaka, Rangoon, Singapore and Manila. Moreover Aeroflot have also been allowed to operate to Kuala Lumpur or Singapore via Calcutta. It is the constant endeavour of Government to encourage more international airlines to operate through Calcutta where modern airport facilities and navigational aids are available.

Export of Onions

990. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made by his Ministry to increase the export of onions in 1975-76; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The export of onions has been canalised through the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi from 5th December, 1975. The Federation is making all efforts to enter new markets like USSR, Yugoslavia, etc., in addition to the traditional destinations. The exports during 1975-76 are expected to reach 100,000 tons.

Rates of Interest for Bank Credits advanced in Backward Areas

991. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 258 on 23rd January, 1976 regarding high rate of interest for bank credit and state:

(a) the rates of interest for credits within the limits of Rs. 2 lakhs advanced to unemployed educated persons, marginal and small farmers and other weaker sections in the backward areas of the country;

(b) what amount under the above categories have been advanced by the private and nationalised banks respectively in different States of the country and the backward districts of Bihar, in particular; and

(c) the total number of the applicants in the respective backward districts of Bihar who have been granted or whose cases are pending finalisation in each backward district of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) Reserve Bank's directive on minimum lending rate stipulates that the

banks would charge not less than 12.5 per cent on their advances, excepting the ones in categories specifically exempted from the operation of the minimum lending rate directive. Those in the exempted categories include advances upto Rs. 2 lakhs granted to small scale industrial units and covered under Credit Guarantee Scheme, loans and advances up to specified limits granted to agriculturists, small businessmen, retail traders and covered by the guarantee scheme of Credit Guarantee Corporation of India, and advances under Differential Interest Rate Scheme. The precise rates charged by the banks on these exempted categories differ marginally from bank to bank and depend upon the size of the advances, the nature and the period of the advances concerned, the purpose for which advance is being made, the overall judgement of the borrower's creditworthiness etc. Advances given by way of export credit are subject to ceilings for interest rates, which are currently 11.5 per cent for pre-shipment and post-shipment credit up to certain specified periods and 8 per cent for credit given for financing deferred payment exports. Advances given under Differential Interest Rate Scheme carry rate of interest of 4 per cent. For advances for which commercial banks get refinance facilities either from the Industrial Development Bank of India or from Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation, the minimum lending rate stipulation does not apply and the maximum rates depend upon the terms prescribed by these respective institutions.

(b) and (c). The available data on State-wise advances of public sector banks under priority sector, Differential Interest Rate Scheme, Employment Promotion Programme and loans to small and marginal farmers are indicated in Statement I, II, III and IV respectively which have been laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10481/76]. In so far as the backward districts of Bihar are concerned, the data available re-

late to end June 1974 and give sectoral breakdown of the scheduled commercial banks' advances in these districts. These are set out in Statement V laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10481/76].

Out in Production by Textile Mills

992. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:

SHRI B S BHAIURA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the cotton textile mills have deliberately cut back their production with a view to keep the prices at a high level;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the measures being taken or proposed to be taken to stop them from playing these tricks; and

(d) the incentives Government have allowed to Textile Industry since the year 1975?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH)

(a) No, Sir Production during 1975 shows a marginal decline over the production in 1974, but this is attributable to fall in effective demand

(b) and (c) Do not arise

(d) No incentives have been given, but by way of relief financially weak units have been made eligible to exemption from production of controlled cloth for a period of one year Effective from January, 1976 the controlled cloth obligation of mills which had exported more than 20 per cent of their total production, will be based on the packing for domestic sales only

Foreign Companies in India

993 SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state-

(a) whether many foreign companies in India have begun to diversify their operations by starting new ventures taking advantage of the new

provisions in the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM) (a) and (b) Under the Guidelines for administering Section 29 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 which were laid on the Table of the House on 20th December, 1973, foreign companies engaged in low priority manufacturing activities or in trading activities have the option either to reduce their foreign equity to 40 per cent or to change the character of their activities by diversification of their operations to predominantly manufacturing activities covered by Appendix-I of the Industrial Licensing Policy, 1973 or predominantly export-oriented industries Prior permission of Reserve Bank of India under Section 29 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 is required to be obtained for such diversification

Jute Trade with E.E.C.

994 SHRI K M 'MADHUKAR' Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government had talks with European Economic Community regarding jute trade, and

(b) if so, the facts and result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH)

(a) and (b) Preliminary talks have been held for negotiating a new jute agreement with European Economic Community but the agreement has not yet been finalised

Export of Musical Instruments

995 SHRI K M 'MADHUKAR' Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether India has wide range of musical instruments to offer for export;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the growing demand of these musical instruments in the World markets; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to augment their exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statistics of our exports show a small but growing demand. No market survey has yet been undertaken to identify the instruments for which there is a demand.

(c) There has been no drive to augment exports.

Bajpe Airport

996. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state.

(a) whether the present airport at Bajpe is too small to meet the requirements of the increasing air traffic; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for the construction of a big airport with a longer runway?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b). The existing aerodrome at Bajpe (Mangalore) is suitable for regular operations of HS-748 and F-27 type aircraft. It is not capable of being developed for Boeing-737 operations. The possibility of developing an alternate aerodrome at a new site for Boeing-737 services is being examined.

Rates of Growth in Deposits in SBI, Nationalised and Scheduled Commercial Banks

997. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual rates of growth in deposits in the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries, the fourteen nationalised banks and other scheduled commercial banks during the last three years; and

(b) the average deposits per branch in these three categories of banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The relevant data are set out in the attached statement.

Statement

| Name of Bank/Group of Banks | Rate of growth in deposits during (%) | | | Average deposits per branch as at the end of December (Rs lakhs) | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|------|------|--|-------|-------|
| | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) |
| 1. State Bank of India and its Subsidiaries | 16.2 | 22.9 | 14.7 | 58.58 | 65.44 | 68.23 |
| 2. 14—Nationalised Banks | 22.1 | 11.8 | 17.1 | 65.34 | 66.88 | 70.28 |
| Total Public Sector Banks (1+2) | 20.2 | 15.4 | 16.2 | 63.02 | 66.39 | 69.57 |
| 3. Other Scheduled Commercial Banks. | 21.4 | 12.2 | 16.9 | 54.91 | 54.51 | 53.37 |
| Commercial Banking system as a whole. | 20.4 | 14.9 | 16.4 | 61.55 | 64.19 | 66.39 |

Note: Data for 1975 are provisional.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CUSTOMS ACT, 1962, GOLD CONTROL (FORMS, FEES AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS) AMNDI. RULES, 1976, NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, 1944, AND MEDICAL AND TOILET PREPARATIONS ETC., RULES, 1976

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—
 - (i) G.S.R. 125(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 1976 together with an explanatory memorandum.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 326 published in Gazette of India dated the 6th March, 1976.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-10468/76].
- (2) A copy of the Gold Control (Forms, Fees and Miscellaneous Matters) Amendment Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 143(E). in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 1976, under sub-section (3) of section 114 of the Gold (Control) Act, 1968. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10469/76]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944:—
 - (i) G.S.R. 115(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 1976 together

with an explanatory memorandum.

- (ii) G.S.R. 232(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th March, 1976 together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10470/76].
- (4) A copy of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Construction of References Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 127(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1976, under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10471/76].

TENTH VALUATION REPORT OF LIC AS ON 31-3-75

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Tenth Valuation Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on the 31st March, 1975, under section 29 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10472/76].

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

EIGHTIETH REPORT AND MINUTES'

SHRI AMARNATH VIDYALANKAR (Chandigarh): I beg to present the following Report and Minutes of the Committee on Public Undertakings:—

- (i) Eightieth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Hindustan Antibiotics Limited.
- (ii) Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating to the above Report.

12.02 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir, before I read out the statement of Government business for the next week, with your permission, I would like to make one important announcement regarding the current session.

A couple of days ago, you will recollect that there was a meeting with you when the leaders of the opposition and myself were present and for various reasons, it was then considered desirable that the current session of Lok Sabha be extended upto and including 22nd May and there will be a break between 16th and 25th April. During that period, it will be recalled that already five days holidays have been notified, but this would make it a ten-day gap. During the extended period as usual, there would be no Question Hour. This has also meant the re-scheduling of financial programme. Now the Demands for Grants will continue upto 11th May and that evening they will be guillotined and the Finance Bill will be taken up on the 12th May.

I hope, this announcement has the approval of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing from 22nd March, 1976, will consist of:—

1. Further discussion on the General Budget for 1976-77.
2. Submission to the vote of the House of Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 1976-77.
3. Discussion and voting on:
 - (i) Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1976-77.

- (ii) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1975-76.

4. General Discussion on the Tamil Nadu Budget for 1976-77.

5. Discussion and voting on:—

- (i) Demands for Grants (Tamil Nadu) for 1976-77.
 - (ii) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Tamil Nadu) for 1975-76.

6. Consideration and passing of the following Bills in replacement of Ordinances together with the Statutory Resolutions seeking disapproval thereof:

- (i) The Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Amendment Bill, 1976.
 - (ii) The Departmentalisation of Union Accounts (Transfer of Personnel) Bill, 1976.

7. Discussion on the Resolution seeking approval of the Proclamation issued by the President in relation to the State of Gujarat.

8. General discussion on the Gujarat Budget for 1976-77.

9. Discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants (Gujarat) for 1976-77.

10. Consideration and passing of:—

- (a) The Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Bill, 1976.
 - (b) The Iron Ore Mines and Manganese Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Bill, 1976.
 - (c) The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Bill, 1976.
 - (d) The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Bill, 1976.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1975-76

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI): I beg to present a statement showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Budget (Railways) for 1975-76.

12.05 hrs.

TAMIL NADU BUDGET, 1976-77

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): I beg to present a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure of the State of Tamil Nadu for the year 1976-77.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a long statement, you can lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I will read only a few paragraphs with your permission.

The House is aware of the context in which Presidential rule was imposed in Tamil Nadu on 31st January, 1976. In the short time available since then, we have made an intensive review of the needs of the State and the priorities of development. Although Tamil Nadu had occupied an eminent position in the all-India picture in the First, Second and Third Plan periods, there has been a slackening in developmental outlays as well as a deviation from priorities in the last few years. In this context, the primary task is to ensure that there is a significant step up in the Plan outlay for 1976-77 so that Tamil Nadu can be helped to rejoin the mainstream of national development. In increasing the Plan outlay, we have to ensure that additional emphasis is given to the core sectors such as agriculture, irrigation, power, industry and transport. Adequate provisions will also be necessary for social services. The increase in Plan outlay

will have to be based on the availability and mobilisation of genuine resources. These are the main objectives which this Budget seeks to promote.

In earlier discussions with the previous Government, an outlay of Rs. 177 crores had been approved for the State's Plan in 1976-77. In the intensive review which I had referred to earlier we felt that it was both necessary and feasible to increase the outlay to Rs. 201 crores with a more disciplined and careful husbanding of resources. The increase of Rs. 24 crores will be mainly in Agriculture and Irrigation (Rs. 6.77 crores), Power (Rs. 5 crores), Industry (Rs. 1.05 crores), Drinking Water Supply (Rs. 2.14 crores), Slum clearance (Rs. 1.14 crores) and Welfare of Harijans and Backward Classes (Rs. 1.44 crores). The Plan outlay of Rs. 201 crores will represent a significant increase of 40 per cent over the approved Plan outlay of Rs. 143 crores for the current year. Rs. 111 crores in the Plan outlay or 56 per cent will be on schemes connected with the 20-point programme. The Power sector will once again be given pride of place in the Annual Plan with the outlay on Power being increased to Rs. 70.12 crores in 1976-77 as against Rs. 41 crores in the current year.

It is a matter of personal satisfaction to me that the State's Plan is crossing the Rs. 200 crore mark when I am presenting the Tamil Nadu Budget after an interval of 14 years...

AN HON. MEMBER: That too at Delhi and not at Madras.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: That is due to their misfeasance.

I have every confidence that Tamil Nadu which has lagged behind can once again be brought forward to the forefront in achieving the national objectives of the 20-point economic programme. If I may say so, with a

[Shri C. Subramaniam]

pardonable sense of pride, the intelligent and hardworking people of Tamil Nadu are her greatest asset. With the confluence of Tamil Nadu in the mainstream of National life, I have every confidence that they will rededicate themselves to the urgent and challenging tasks of economic development and social progress.

With these words, I seek the approval of the House to the Budget Estimates for 1976-77 in respect of the State of Tamil Nadu.

I lay the Statement on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Budget of the Government of Tamil Nadu for 1976-77

Sir,

I lay on the table of the House the Annual Financial Statement of the State of Tamil Nadu for the financial year 1976-77.

2. The House is aware of the context in which Presidential rule was imposed in Tamil Nadu on 31st January 1976. In the short time available since then, we have made an intensive review of the needs of the State and the priorities of development. Although Tamil Nadu had occupied an eminent position in the all-India picture in the First, Second and Third Plan periods, there has been a slackening in developmental outlays as well as a deviation from priorities in the last few years. In this context, the primary task is to ensure that there is a significant step up in the Plan outlay for 1976-77 so that Tamil Nadu can be helped to rejoin the mainstream of national development. In increasing the Plan outlay, we have to ensure that additional emphasis is given to the core sectors such as agriculture, irrigation, power, industry and transport. Adequate provisions will also be necessary for social services. The increase in Plan outlay will have to be based on the avail-

ability and mobilisation of genuine resources. There are the main objectives which this Budget seeks to promote.

ANNUAL PLAN 1976-77

3. In earlier discussions with the previous Government, an outlay of Rs. 177 crores had been approved for the State's Plan in 1976-77. In the intensive review which I had referred to earlier we felt that it was both necessary and feasible to increase the outlay to Rs. 201 crores with a more disciplined and careful husbanding of resources. The increase of Rs. 24 crores will be mainly in Agriculture and Irrigation (Rs. 6.77 crores), Power (Rs. 5 crores), Industry (Rs. 1.05 crores), Drinking water supply (Rs. 2.14 crores), Slum clearance (Rs. 1.14 crores) and Welfare of Harijans and Backward Classes (Rs. 1.44 crores). The Plan outlay of Rs. 201 crores will represent a significant increase of 40 per cent over the approved Plan outlay of Rs. 143 crores for the current year. Rs. 111 crores in the Plan outlay or 56 per cent will be on schemes connected with the 20-point programme. The Power sector will once again be given pride of place in the Annual Plan with the outlay on Power being increased to Rs. 70.18 crores in 1976-77 as against Rs. 41 crores in the current year.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

4. With the return of normal seasonal conditions, Tamil Nadu has achieved a good increase in agricultural production. It is estimated that the production of foodgrains in the current year will be at the level of 80.6 lakh tonnes and the output level is expected to go up to 83 lakh tonnes in 1976-77. Fertiliser availability is comfortable. Continued investments will be made for strengthening seed farms and for bringing cultivable waste lands under the plough through the State Farms Corporation. Allied sectors such as Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Forests are also being given due emphasis in the Annual Plan outlays.

IRRIGATION

5. In 1976-77, four irrigation schemes, viz., Marudanadhi, Kodaganar, Vattamalaikarai Odai, Palar-Porandalar will be completed at a total cost of Rs. 12.64 crores benefiting 17,230 acres of new area and stabilising irrigation in 13,100 acres. There will be substantial progress in modernising Vaigai Channels. The Periyar improvement project has been posed for assistance from the World Bank. The State has almost fully utilised its availability of surface water. Limitations are also beginning to emerge in regard to the exploitation of ground water resources in many areas of Tamil Nadu. The optimal utilisation of the entire water potential of the State has to be studied, planned and implemented as a total system with the emphasis on efficiency and economy in the use of water for irrigation. With this background, the enhanced Plan outlay provides for Rs. 4 crores for improvements to the old irrigation systems.

6. The Irrigation Commission had identified 24 drought-prone core areas in the districts of Tirunelveli, Ramnathapuram, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, Salem, Dharmapuri and Coimbatore. Dry farming research and associated extension and developmental efforts will be accelerated in these areas. All possible efforts will also be taken to formulate and execute irrigation projects which can provide a measure of permanent relief to the drought-prone district of Tamil Nadu.

POWER

7. With the commissioning of the fifth unit (110 MW) at the Ennore thermal plant, the installed capacity in Tamil Nadu has increased to 2364 MW. The Naduvattam Diversion Scheme which will contribute an additional 69 million units per annum of energy will be completed shortly. The Ennore improvement

scheme is being implemented with the assistance of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited. We are taking all steps to ensure that generation is maximised particularly from the thermal plants. With the availability of balancing power from Kerala, it should be possible to avoid a power cut throughout the year given a normal South-West monsoon.

8. The Annual Plan provides for Rs. 34.5 crores for the first phase of the Tuticorin power project which is expected to add 420 MW by 1979-80. An advance Central assistance of Rs. 27 crores will be provided for this project in recognition of the high priority we have accorded to power development in Tamil Nadu. In the enhanced Plan outlay, Rs. 5 crores have been provided for the Pandiar-Punnampuzha Hydel project (100 MW).

INDUSTRY

9. There is a provision of Rs. 4.21 crores in the Plan for the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) which is implementing a number of joint sector projects. TIDCO has also taken up the construction of a new cement plant at Ariyalur at a cost of Rs. 16.5 crores. The continuous casting plant at Arkonam is proposed to be diversified with a blooming mill. This will be a feeder unit to the Seamless Tube project at Tiruchirapalli which has recently been approved as a Central sector investment.

OTHER PROGRAMMES

10. I shall briefly refer to other important programmes for which provisions have been made in the Budget.

11. In the educational sector, there will be continued emphasis on qualitative and quantitative improvement to school, collegiate and technical education. It is proposed to open centres for non-formal education in each of 375 Panchayat Unions in the State in 1976-77.

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12. Provisions have been made for Health and Medical Services with a view to increasing the bed strength in district headquarters hospitals, upgradation of facilities in Government hospitals, appointment of additional medical officers, nurses and pharmacists, and for the promotion of Indian medicine. An outlay of Rs. 6.3 crores has been made for the Family Planning programme. The implementation of this programme is under review and we propose to give it further impetus.

13. A new scheme for the medical check-up of school children with particular reference to the prevention, early detection and control of leprosy will be launched in the districts of Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot and Salem where there is a high incidence of this disease.

14. The benefits of the Employees State Insurance Scheme will be extended to fully cover all registered factories and commercial, hotel and restaurant, shop, cinema theatre and motor transport establishments. This decision will benefit the families of over 3 lakh employees hitherto not covered under ESI.

15. A provision of Rs. 17.45 crores has been made for the welfare of Harijans and Backward Classes. The provision for acquisition of house-sites for Harijans has been enhanced from Rs. 25 lakhs in the current year to Rs. 50 lakhs in 1976-77 since this is an important item in the 20-point programme. There has so far been no comprehensive approach to improve the living conditions of the tribal population in Tamil Nadu and to find solutions to the special problems affecting them. We have decided to set up a Tribal Development Authority with adequate funds and powers to formulate and implement programmes for Tribal Welfare.

16. The Slum Clearance programme will be implemented with a total provision of Rs. 3.6 crores which includes an enhanced provision of Rs. 60 lakhs

for the phased clearance of slums along the Buckingham Canal in Madras City. In addition, Rs. 25 lakhs have been provided for environmental improvements to slum areas.

17. A total provision of Rs. 30.21 crores has been made for the construction and maintenance of road works. Eight bridges under the Central Road Fund programme are expected to be completed in 1976-77. With assistance from the Centre, a substantial programme has been initiated for the improvement of roads and bridges in and around Madras City and for the provision of subways at important pedestrian crossings.

18. Honourable Members are aware that Madras City underwent an acute scarcity of water supply last summer in the wake of the severe drought that affected the State. Unfortunately, the Veeranam water supply project which was initiated more than seven years ago has encountered serious difficulties. The technical aspects of this project are being reviewed. Based on this review, we shall take appropriate steps to ensure that early relief is provided to Madras City in the matter of water supply. A major new development has been the Prime Minister's recent announcement at Madras of the willingness of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka to spare 15 TMC of water from the Krishna river for the water supply requirements of Madras City. In the enhanced Plan outlay we have provided Rs. one crore for the preliminary investigations in connection with this project.

FINANCIAL POSITION

19. I shall now turn to the financial aspects of the Budget. The Budget Estimates for 1975-76 envisaged a revenue deficit of Rs. 30.12 crores and an overall deficit of Rs. 20.57 crores. In the Revised Estimates the revenue deficit is estimated at Rs. 7.76 crores and the overall deficit at Rs. 6.26 crores. The major factor for the improvement has been the receipts to the State from the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme,

20. Revenue receipts in 1976-77 are estimated at Rs. 575.63 crores and expenditure on Revenue Account at Rs. 587.95 crores resulting in a revenue deficit of Rs. 12.32 crores. The capital expenditure is being increased in 1976-77 to Rs. 6040 crores as compared to Rs. 41.76 crores in the Budget for 1975-76. The overall effect of transactions on the revenue, capital and loan accounts will be deficit of Rs. 9.98 crores.

ADDITIONAL MOBILISATION

21. We are faced with the imperative need for increasing developmental outlays on the one hand and an eroded resource base in Tamil Nadu on the other. We are taking all steps to ensure that avoidable and unnecessary non-Plan expenditure is curtailed. President's rule has brought about a sense of discipline in fiscal administration and we can expect a better collection of taxes and other dues to Government. Economy and improved receipts are therefore both possible but despite these efforts a certain measure of additional mobilisation has become inevitable.

22. Against this background, the following measures are proposed to be undertaken —

(i) The previous Government had notified an upward revision of bus fares in Tamil Nadu. Following this revision it is proposed to siphon off a part of the additional revenues of bus fleet operators by enhancing the Motor Vehicles Tax from Rs. 180 to Rs. 225 per seat per quarter for motor services and from Rs. 200 to 240 per seat per quarter for express services.

(ii) The Additional Sales Tax structure in Tamil Nadu needs revision in order to prevent avoidance and anomalies. The limit beyond which additional sales tax is payable which is at present Rs. 10 lakhs of taxable turnover per annum is also high compared with other States such as Madhya Pradesh where the corresponding limit is

Rs. 50,000. It is, therefore, proposed to levy additional sales tax calculated at 0.4 per cent of the taxable turnover in the slab of Rs. 3 to 5 lakhs of taxable turnover per annum with the rate of tax being 0.5 per cent for the slab of Rs. 5 to 7 lakhs, 0.6 per cent for the slab of Rs. 7 to 10 lakhs and 0.7 per cent for Rs. 10 lakhs and above. The additional sales tax shall not be passed on to the consumer.

(iii) Irrigation rates have not been revised in Tamil Nadu since 1963. Irrigation projects in the State are making an overall loss about Rs. 10 crores. It is proposed to cover a part of this loss through two measures. Firstly, an additional water cess of Rs. 12 per acre on lands using water from I class sources and of Rs. 10 per acre in the case of II class sources is proposed to be levied. Under these sources there is dependable irrigation for not less than eight to twelve months in a year. There will be no increase for farmers who draw water from poorer sources of irrigation such as rainfed tanks in classes III, IV and V. Secondly, it is proposed to introduce a special assessment in respect of commercial crops following the pattern adopted in neighbouring States such as Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The special assessment will be at the rate of Rs. 25 per acre for grapes, sugar cane, plantain, coconut, betel and turmeric and Rs. 15 per acre for tobacco, chillies, irrigated cotton and irrigated groundnut. I might point out that this levy will constitute a very small proportion of the net income of farmers who grow remunerative cash crops.

23. Honourable Members will agree that none of these measures will affect the poorer sections of society or the ordinary consumer in Tamil Nadu. The present tax structure is such that any further impetus to development can be given only if the tax burden is more equitably shared between the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. In devising these additional mobilisation measures, we have also kept

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in view the need to upgrade the resource base of the State so that the increased tempo of development which is reflected in this Budget could be sustained in future years I would like the House to consider the proposals I have made against this background.

24. As part of the 20-point programme, it is proposed to exempt note books and pencils from the present multi-point sales tax of 4 per cent. In order to prevent diversion of trade and to revive distressed units, it is proposed to give certain other concessions. The sales tax on cotton yarn sold outside the State will be reduced from 3 to 2 per cent. The sales tax on dry cells will be reduced from 15 per cent to 9 per cent. The sales tax on passenger cars will be reduced from 15 per cent to 12 per cent with exemption from Central sales tax for passenger cars and light diesel vehicles exported from the State.

25. The revisions in the Motor Vehicles Tax and Additional Sales Tax will come into force with effect from 1st April, 1976. The additional water cess and the special assessment on commercial crops will take effect from the next revenue year which in Tamil Nadu begins on 1st July, 1976. The concessions will come into force with immediate effect.

26. The total yield from the additional tax measures has been estimated at Rs. 105 crores. The effect of the concessions will be a loss in revenue of Rs. 15 crores. The net effect of these proposals will, therefore, be Rs. 9 crores in a full year reducing the revenue deficit to Rs. 3.32 crores and the overall deficit to Rs. 0.98 crores. This marginal deficit will get fully covered through economies and better collection of taxes.

27. It is a matter of personal satisfaction to me that the State's Plan is crossing the Rs. 200 crore mark when

I am presenting the Tamil Nadu Budget after an interval of 14 years. I have every confidence that Tamil Nadu which has legged behind can once again be brought forward to the forefront in achieving the national objectives of the 20-point economic programme. If I may say so, with a pardonable sense of pride, the intelligent and hard working people of Tamil Nadu are her greatest asset. With the confluence of Tamil Nadu in the mainstream of National life, I have every confidence that they will rededicate themselves to the urgent and challenging tasks of economic development and social progress.

28. With these words, I seek the approval of the House to the Budget Estimates for 1976-77 in respect of the State of Tamil Nadu.

12.08 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET, 1976-77 GENERAL DISCUSSION—con'd.

MR. SPEAKER Now we take up the further discussion of the General Budget.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi) In 1962, on 13th April, my respected leader, the late Shri C. Rajagopalachari wrote in the Swarajya

"Levy tax as the honey bee takes nectar from the flower. Taxation is not just book keeping arithmetic. It is the science of incentives for production overlaid with the science of looking after those who have to be cared for at public expense."

We were called 'obscurantists' at that time. As stated just now by the Finance Minister, he had the privilege to take the responsibility of the Department of Finance on his able shoulders under the Chief Ministership of Rajaji in 1952. After going through this budget, my first reaction was—I wish Rajaji were present here to day—that it is a realistic budget growth-oriented,

having more plan outlay, giving emphasis to agriculture, rationalising the tax structure and at long last, bringing a ray of hope of a better tomorrow for the common man. But at the same time I have certain reservations which I would like to spell out in the course of my speech. The Finance Minister has been very frank in saying that our economy is not free from pressure. There should not be any complacency on the part of the Government in this regard. Our better performance in this year's Revised Budget should not bring any complacency and I hope that stricter financial discipline should be adhered to.

In this Budget the Finance Minister had anticipated deficit financing to the tune of Rs 320 crores. But I feel there is a greater difference between published deficit and the actual deficit. The Finance Minister, most probably, had taken account of the Treasury Bills only and not long term Government debts. If both are totalled the deficit would be much bigger.

We expect inflationary tendencies. These tendencies can only be contained if our economy maintains expected growth without any serious adverse effect on the prices. I can assure you that the Finance Minister will get whole hearted support from the entire House. He should be properly insulated against any pressure either Rightist or Leftist in a movement towards better tomorrow. The only answer to inflationary tendency is to have more growth of our gross national product and impetus to stimulate growth.

I do not want to enter into controversy of private sector or public sector. But we want growth. We want better performance in both these sectors so that more wealth could be generated and if there is any concentration of wealth in the hands of any particular individual(s), the fiscal measures are there to take care of it. The creative genius of man have to be utilised. That is what Shri Rajagopalachari had been stressing about. Then only proper atmosphere would be created and

the infra structure would be properly created which can be conducive to growth both in agriculture and on the industrial front.

So far as Agriculture is concerned, I would like to submit that about 76 per cent of the workers and the people in India draw their living from agriculture. Nearly 50 per cent of the national product is constituted by agriculture. Private industry contributes 15 per cent and public sector contributes only 5 per cent.

So far as allocation of resources goes 65 per cent goes to public undertakings, 35 per cent goes to agriculture and industry. Agriculture has been suffering from capital starvation. Unless the condition of the farmers improves the entire economy will not go up. The Finance Minister has rightly stated that India lives in villages.

We should not be satisfied even if we are self sufficient in food because at the moment food is our biggest import. But we can export food. You will be surprised to know that Basmati rice sold at Rs 50 per kg in the gulf countries. Food can be our main source of foreign exchange earning if agriculture sector is properly tackled. It is a welcome sign that some concession has been given in the agriculture sector and some reduction has been given effect to so far as fertiliser is concerned. I think the concession given is not adequate. Fertilizer is still very dear and is beyond the purchasing power of the agriculturists. When you compare with the international market price you will find that the indigenous fertilizer price is much higher. The agriculturist is not getting supporting price for his produce. This year there was bumper crop. But nobody is lifting his paddy. So far as my State is concerned I can say with all the emphasis at my command that the agriculturist has to part with his produce at a much lower price than the procurement price because of his family commitments, be-

[Shri P. K. Deo]

cause he has got no capacity to hold the stocks and so on. Even those few purchasing agents who are the blue eyed boys of the Government are not ready to lift even the levy paddy at the procurement price. This artificial situation is being created by the licence-permit-quota system. I most respectfully submit this You lift control and all these district barriers and State barriers, let the natural law of supply and demand determine the price of foodgrains. All problems would be solved.

I welcome the land reforms. Ceiling has to be fixed It should be fixed once for all The agriculturist should know where he stands so that he can put his heart and soul to improve his land by the latest techniques and putting in more input etc. So far as credit is concerned, in spite of the 20-point programme to liquidate the rural indebtedness still the agriculturists have to depend upon the local mahajan who charges 50 to 75 per cent interest against mortgage of gold We have still not been able to replace the professional moneylenders All legislations by State Governments have remained as dead-letters in the statute-book The proposal for having regional rural banks should be given immediate effect to. Adequate steps have not been taken in this regard. I most respectfully submit that preference should be given in respect of tribal, backward areas, to start with

So far as industries are concerned, if the Finance Minister is particular that there should be industrial growth there should be assured supply of power credit and raw materials First preference should be given to village and settage industries employing much more manpower than the other types of industries Small scale industries should be given preference especially in backward areas This is the Gandhian idea and this has been accepted throughout the world that in respect of all developing countries this alone is the answer to uplift the GNP

in these areas. The local entrepreneurs have to be trained and encouraged. They should be provided with the necessary technical knowhow and so on. Adequate finance should be provided. Sir, the less we say about the various financial institutions like the State Financing Corporations the better it is. Emergency has failed to curb the indiscipline, corruption and bureaucratic approach which have been legacies of pre-emergency era.

Regarding the marketability of the products of small-scale industries I would say that a directive should be given from here to State Governments that they should be patronised instead of patronising the monopoly houses or those companies covered by the MRTP Act.

Sir, mere location of big industries does not solve the problems of the common man Mr Speaker you come from Bihar Chota Nagpur is endowed with all the available natural resources. There is large concentration of industries in that area

But, what is the lot of the common man there? This is one of the poorest areas in this country. Similarly in Western Orissa also though there are all sorts of natural resources there is abundant power potential and there is everything but because of the lack of approach on the part of the State Government to develop those areas, the people have still remained backward. Even the elementary infrastructure like roads and communications is also not satisfactory

The significant feature of this budget has been that stress has been given on plan outlay—there is a record increase of 31.6 per cent in the 1976-77 budget, an outlay of Rs 7 852 crores. With the emphasis on irrigation, power, petroleum, fertilisers and steel and coal, I hope the tempo of development will gather momentum and bring the country not only to self-sufficiency but also to affluence

For example, I would like to request the Finance Minister to take a leaf from the economic miracle that has been achieved by West Germany and Japan in the post war. Like phoenix they have risen from the ashes. We, with our tremendous potential and such a vast country, should not think of distribution of poverty as our goal; we should try to bring up the underdogs to a condition of affluence.

Sir, our past experience shows that more financial outlay does not necessarily means more physical achievement commensurate with the return on the investment. This is one area which needs considerable vigilance and an efficient administrative machinery. At the same time, priority should be given judiciously, it should be fixed on such power projects as have got a tremendous potential for the development of this country. Take for example, the Indravati Project in Orissa. Here, I would like to stress that this should be given a top priority. After the solution of the Godavari water dispute, the impediment has been over. It will generate 600 mw of hydro power at a very cheap cost and it will irrigate 5 lakh acres of chronically drought affected area and solve to a great extent this country's power shortage and food shortage. It is a two hundred crores project. The Orissa Government had made a provision of Rs 140 crores in their budget. It would take 200 years. I would request the hon Finance Minister to give his attention to this. You can take it as a central project like the Bhakra or D V C. If it is not possible, as the World Bank has been visiting this State, I would request him to arrange for some finances from the World Bank so that this country's food problems and power shortage could be solved to a great extent.

Nearby Indravati Project, the Geological Survey of India has recently located high grade bauxite ore of 10,000 million tonnes with 68 per cent of aluminium content. This is an electricity which is a raw material for any electro-metallurgical industry. So,

I would suggest that there should be two alumina plants and one large aluminium complex located at Kesinga on the river Tel. There is plenty of water supply and land is available.

Now, coming to the taxes, I would like to suggest that the cut in the income-tax and wealth tax and concessions with higher obligation on the part of the tax-payers regarding compulsory deposits raises a great expectation as they represent an attempt to get away from dogmatic or ideological pre-possessions. The expectation is that the reduction will lead to increased receipts and reduced evasion which will mostly benefit the salaried class and the middle income group.

Sir, satisfaction has been expressed by the Finance Minister on the success of the voluntary disclosures and in that scheme Rs 1500 crores have been unearthed but I would like to submit that it is the tip of the ice-berg. The Wanchoo Committee has guessed that black money in circulation as a parallel economy is to the tune of Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 6,000 crores. All this wealth should be used in nation-building activities. Capital export has been going on in a big way in all possible clandestine manners. The saving as anticipated which should generate wealth is far from satisfactory.

Coming to indirect taxes, I feel that the relief in excise duty on consumer durables like TV, frig, cars, jeeps, etc will please the middle-class. Abolition of excise duty on ready-made garments is welcome as it is labour-intensive and is making a steady headway in our export market. But I oppose with all the emphasis at my command the increase of duty on patent medicines. The doctors in this country are very few and they are reluctant to go to the rural areas. These people only depend on the patent medicines. If the Finance Minister is going to put more excise duty on the patent medicines then there is a definite contrast between his precept and practice. I request him while passing the Finance Bill to take into consideration this aspect.

[Shri P. K. Deo]

Regarding whole-sale consumer price index though there has been a satisfaction that there has been a fall yet to me it is a marginal fall. It is still three and a half times more than the 1949 price index and three time higher than the 1960 base. Floating of rupee and delinking with sterling had been demanded from these benches last year by Mr. Piloo Mody. I am happy that his advice has been taken into consideration and given effect to.

I feel that it is a bold attempt to turn the corner but I expect that there should be a U-turn. On the whole it is a good budget and, I hope, it will remain a permanent feature in the budgetary system of this country and it will not be just a pre-election budget.

SHRI M. V KRISHNAPPA (Hoskote): Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of us who have the privilege of being in this House for the last 25 years have gone through 25 budgets. I feel that this budget—viewing from all angles—is really a budget which this country needed at this hour. When there is wide-spread inflation all over the world and every country is struggling to reduce it and also when there was almost a shadow of recession in this country and there was a heavy rainfall which led to good crop and agriculture produce prices were going down, at this juncture, a Budget with maximum investment, minimum taxation and less deficit as compared to the past few years, is a budget that is really a powerful filip to economic growth, savings and more investment both in industry and agriculture.

This is the type of budget that perhaps the Opposition people never expected. There is some criticism here and there about taxation and excise duties. As the Finance Minister has mentioned clearly, the reduction in excise duties in the case of a few industries, is not only to help the middle-class people who use TV sets, batteries or cars, but also the industries and the employees working in those industries.

If there had been a layoff in Hindustan Motors, for example, Mr. Indrajit Gupta would have been the first to organise labour and come to the Finance Minister to take measures to have them taken back in the factory. So that way the Finance Minister has reduced the excise duties on certain items, it benefits not only the class of people who use those products, it also helps to keep those industries manufacturing those items avoid lay-offs. There are hundreds of thousands of industries units in this country making these things.

As regards the reduction in income-tax and wealth tax, it is said that it stimulates disclosures of more hidden wealth. I am sure the Finance Minister would succeed and then we shall certainly compliment him. More than anything else, the largest investment this year in the Plan is judiciously distributed on priority subjects. The maximum amount has perhaps gone to priority subjects like agriculture, irrigation and power. Even such subjects like social welfare which were starved for the last three years are not neglected. So, in this judicious distribution of the budgetary allocations in regard to investment in the Plan, the Government has done well. It is a well-thought out plan, a very well-thought-out budget. Critics should understand that there is a sort of shadow recession in the country in various industries; if they do so, where will not be much criticism also.

One fact which I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is the pitiable condition of the farmers today, the agriculturists, who are the backbone of this country, who still form 67–70 per cent of the population, who produce 50 per cent of the national wealth. Whenever the authorities wanted to hold the price line, the victims have always been the farmers. If the price line is horizontal or vertical, you could hold it; but it has always been a curve line. So the victims have always been the farmers.

What is the position today? With the emergency, fortunately rains also started. There were unprecedentedly heavy rains all over the country. I have been associated with agriculture since the last 20—25 years, as Deputy Minister here and later as a Minister in my State. I have never seen a good year as far as rainfall is concerned, as last year. It was a year which might not repeat itself. There was no scarcity of rain at all in any part of India; it was only excess rain here and there which has spoiled the crops because of floods etc. In such a year, there was a bumper crop. Is it that the farmer gets every year a bumper crop? He gets every year good crop. Of all the experienced people in agriculture, Mr. Subramaniam is much more experienced and he has got a very good background in agriculture than myself. When he was in charge of Food and Agriculture Ministry, he had introduced the hybrid seeds and he gave a fillip to the use of technological knowhow in agriculture. I thought he would have certainly understood the farmers plight and he would have brought forward much more relief to the suffering farmers of today. But that has not been done. In the agricultural line, out of a cycle of five years, it is said one year will be good, one year will be bad, one year will be neither good nor bad and two years are indifferent. So, in a cycle of five years, there will be one good year only. When the farmer gets good crops during that period of one year, he suffers. What are the prices of cotton, oil seeds, fodgrains, etc today? Those were the years when the prices of these agricultural commodities had increased more than a hundred per cent. I can give you the prices of certain agricultural products that are sold today, in my own State. Maize was sold at Rs. 160.0 per quintal about two years ago and now it is being sold at Rs. 70.0 per quintal. Bajra was sold at Rs. 170.0 per quintal and now there is nobody to purchase it at Rs. 90.0 per quintal. Paddy was sold at Rs. 160.0 to Rs. 170.0 but today there is nobody to purchase it at

Rs. 90.0 per quintal. And that is the position obtaining in oil seeds and various other commercial commodities also. Now, when the prices have come down, the farmers have no money to buy other essential commodities and this is the State of affairs. From the beginning, Planning Commission has been advising the States to tax the rural sector. They thought that there were rich people in the rural areas and they should be taxed. But this was the position some years back. After implementing the Land Reforms Act, there are no rich people in the rural areas and those people have gone away to the cities. If you go to some posh colonies like Defence Colony, you will find lots of palatial and beautiful houses built by these rich people. But even if you travel in two districts in the rural areas, you cannot come across one such house as you would find in the cities. Now, only the poor or the middle class people are there in rural areas and they have no money to invest. If they do not have money with them, how can you expect them to invest? No investment, no production.

Now, this year, in my State, Karnataka, they have increased the rate of surcharge on electricity. They have increased the agricultural tax which is made applicable to all land owners irrespective of the crop they produce. In addition to this, a new act was enacted in the State last week. The water rates have been doubled per acre.

In this connection, I would like to mention about a thing which I have read in some book. It is stated that Duryodhana before starting the battle at Kurukshetra collected eight years tax at a time. It is stated that he collected eight years tax at a time to fight the battle. But our Karnataka Government is now collecting ten years' water tax at a time. During the time of Shri Nijalingappa, that is about ten years ago, a law was passed to this effect. All these ten years they have not collected the water tax and

[Shri M. V. Krishnappa]

kept it in cold storage, but now they want to make use of the Emergency for collecting this irrigation tax. The poor farmers cannot open their mouth and there is no opposition to this. To help the socially weaker sections, through an Ordinance, we have enhanced the wages of the rural workers. So, taking all these things into account, the cost of production per acre, either for wheat or rice or anything else, works out to not less than Rs. 1000. A major portion of this amount includes the cost of fertilisers. Now, the prices of these agricultural products have come down, that is, very recently. Our Finance Minister has announced some reduction in the prices of fertilisers. But that is not a substantial decrease. About two years ago urea was sold at Rs. 1,000 per tonne and suddenly there was an increase in its price because of oil crisis. Now, from Rs. 2000.0 you have reduced its price to Rs. 1650.0. This reduction has been done in three stages. But still this is more than what it was three years ago. As far as the wages of the agricultural labour are concerned, they have been increased now. Taxation is imposed on agricultural produce, power rates are increased and the farmers do not get even half the price for their products. How can he produce more? So it is going to affect food production in the country. By the time the prices of the agricultural inputs are reduced, the farmers are going to sink. When a man drowns in the Ganga water it said Ganga pushes him up three times I am told, even if he does not know swimming. If there is no help even after the third time, then he drowns. Similarly this is the last stage and if you do not give your helping hand the farmers will sink and this country is going to suffer. Next year your budget will be different. There will be misery everywhere. There will be recession in textile mills, in the railways and everywhere because agricultural production will go down. In order to keep up agricultural production, more investment and more facilities are necessary. That is

not being given in this budget. Mr. Subramaniam has more background in agriculture than me and I still hope that by the time the Finance Bill comes up for discussion, he will give some more relief to the farmers. We do not have enough food in the world. All the surplus food of America is being purchased by Russia under a two-year contract. Surplus food in Australia and Canada is being purchased by China. So, surplus food in the world is almost disappearing. Only last week I read in the papers that even in America there is drought. By his own hybrid seeds, our farmers have proved that we can grow enough food to feed our population and even export. With the hybrid cotton seed, we can produce any amount of cotton. But for that more fertilisers and more inputs are needed, and he must help the farmers in getting these.

With these words, I welcome the budget.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Pupri): Sir, the entire nation seems to be happy at the budgetary proposals. The Finance Minister is in the very enviable position of being congratulated by everyone, right from the FICCI President to the trade union leaders. It has been pointed out rightly that this budget is growth-oriented and it will accelerate the process of growth in the country. It has also been rightly pointed out that this budget is a challenge to the private industrial sector. This is what they have been clamouring for in the last few years and the government has taken a bold decision to accede to most of their demands in terms of tax reduction and other encouragements. The myth of the sick mills must be exploded after this budget. I feel this is a form of exploitation and a very organised effort on the part of the industry to exploit the government and the public at large is being made to get concessions from the public exchequer. I want to know whether any investigation has been made as to how industries income sank whether the owners of the industry have really

become fat or not because there is an impression in the country that while the industry is sick, the managements becomes fat. So the Government should take care of that and should see that in future there is no more sick industry as such.

It has been rightly pointed out by the Minister in his Budget speech when he says: "I would like to emphasise that very often lack of effective management is a basic cause of the sickness of an industry. Along with provisions of financial assistance, financial institutions should, I feel, devise sound mechanisms to tone up the management of assisted concern." I would like to suggest that the persons representing the public financial institutions on the board of management of these industries should also be held responsible in case the industry should go sick. Similarly, the management of these industries should be held responsible and penal provisions should also be made so that they do not take recourse to the method of exploitation. In this regard, I would like to point out the case of sugar industry. Now in eastern UP and Bihar this industry is languishing. The farmers are the worst sufferers. This year they are getting one rupee less per quintal as compared to last year. When the price of inputs has increased, I do not see any justification for this reduction in the price of sugarcane in relation to eastern UP, western UP and Bihar.

Now about fixation of support price of agricultural commodities by the Agricultural Prices Commission. Very powerful case has been made out by Mr. Krishnappa regarding reduction in fertiliser prices. I lend my support to this because there is a genuine case for reduction in the price of fertiliser. This should be brought down to Rs 1500/- per tonne so far the urea goes so that farmers may be able to get per bag of urea nearly at the price of RA 75.

After the Budget, the price of coca cola has been increased by Rs 5/- per

crate. I hope, Mr. Subramaniam will take note of this because all of us are affected by this.

Regarding credit facilities to agricultural sector, it is by and large neglected even after a strong and persistent effort made by the Government and particularly by the hon. Minister since the time he was holding the portfolio of Agriculture and he knows much more than myself about the needs of extending credit facilities to the countryside. I do not know the exact figures but I have the impression that only 9 per cent of the total advances made by the commercial banks go to the agricultural sector. This is a very meagre sum especially in view of the fact that nearly 50 per cent of the national income is from the agricultural sector. So, efforts should be made to give more of advances to the agricultural sector. One of the obstacles in the way of extending credit in the rural sector is the distance limit stipulated by the commercial banks. That distance limit is 8 kms. from the headquarters of the bank. It does not cover much; and most of the blocks do not have offices of the banks. As such, I would request the hon. Minister to see that this distance limit for extending credit in the rural areas is done away with. Sometime during the last session, Shri T. A. Pai had agreed on the floor of this House to make a request to the Finance Ministry to remove this distance limit for the purposes of the retail trade. I feel that this should be done, because the extension of self-employment facilities to the rural educated unemployed youth is one of the points in the 20-point programme enunciated by the Government. In the State of Bihar, about 10,000 licences have been given for retail trade; but because of lack of credit facilities, most of the licences have remained unutilised. And those who have been given this facility, are moving from pillar to post, with no result.

Now a word about export. I congratulate the Ministry of Commerce for its good performance; as also its

[Shri Hari Kishore Singh]

officers dealing with the export promotion programme. I would request the Finance Minister to give some tax concessions to export industries. He has done well to give tax concessions to many industries; but I would plead for his giving tax concessions and development rebates to export-oriented industries. My third suggestion is that the multi-national corporations should be compelled to export at least 40 per cent of their products, because in regard to some of them, Government have not been able to make them conform to the requirements of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act. And, therefore, by this method, I hope the Government will be able to do something; and these corporations can be compelled to export at least 40 per cent of their products. For rural development, a very small sum of Rs. 150 crores has been provided for in the budget. I would request the Finance Minister, who has knowledge of the rural India and who understands the economic situation in the country-side, to increase this at least to Rs. 250 crores, which was the amount provided for in 1971 for rural development and rural employment programmes. The importance of power generation has rightly been emphasized. I would request that the needs of Bihar should be given some priority in this respect. When Dr. K. L. Rao was holding charge of this portfolio, he had assured us on the floor of this House that at Motipur in Muzaffarpur, there will be a thermal power station. But that was not done and the House was assured that something will be done and that a bigger plant will be installed at North Koel in South Bihar. That was also not done. We were then assured that a separate thermal plant will be installed in the State. We now understand that it is also not coming up. So, I would request the Government that, in the case of Bihar, particularly in view of the repeated assurances given by the previous Minister, a super thermal power station should be established in Bihar.

Coming to my own constituency, in the river Bhagmati there is a project which is in the process of construction. I would suggest that some final date should be fixed by which it should be completed.

Finally, I appreciate the sentiments expressed by the hon. Finance Minister, when he says at the concluding part of his speech:

"There is a tide in the affairs of nations, as of men, which taken at the flood leads on to fortune. The nation is at the crest of such a tide. The economy is poised for a surge forward. The Emergency and the New Economic Programme have ushered in a qualitative change in the economic environment. We must now take advantage of the favourable factors and inject a new dynamism to programmes of economic and social development."

I entirely agree with these sentiments. But I would like to add that the nation is also at the cross roads of history. The distance between order and chaos was never as narrow as it is today. The reactionary forces are active at both the national and international level. Though they have received a set back, they have not been defeated. The various tax concessions made to the affluent sections of the society may be utilised to undermine the Government's professed intention of establishing an egalitarian social order in the country. I hope due care will be taken of that. With these words, I strongly support the budget proposals.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Tiruthani):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for his budget, which represents a turning point in the economic history of our country. This year he has been very kind-hearted and he has almost performed a feat by putting something in every pocket, while picking no pocket at all.

Sir, before you leave, kindly have a word with your Deputy so that he will be more generous in the matter of time.

12.58 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When any person sits in this Chair, he exercises his own discretion.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, I appeal to you directly to be a little more indulgent in the matter of giving time.

The Finance Minister has been able to perform this feat because of certain very objective conditions. This budget is an objective response to the conditions obtaining in the country.

My hon. friend, Shri Krishnappa, brought in the name of Duryodhana. In fact, that fellow's name should never have been mentioned in a discussion of this budget. I think he should have thought of another colourful character in Mahabharata, who is called Karna, who has been known for giving and giving; he has been giving all his life.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: I referred to Duryodhana in connection with my State of Karnataka, and not in connection with Shri Subramaniam.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Our Finance Minister, Shri Subramaniam, has become a veritable Karna. While giving relief to everybody, he has not taxed anybody. This has happened only this year. Even last year there was taxation to the extent of Rs. 240 crores. His predecessors have simply heaped taxation on this country. I was making a little calculation and I found that during the last seven years they have imposed additional taxation on the people to the extent of more than Rs. 2,000 crores.

So, this kind-heartedness and this concern for the tax-payer is really

welcome and it does represent a turning point in the economic history of our country as I said before.

13 hrs.

Two factors have been responsible for this very desirable result. The Finance Minister has already referred to one in the Budget. He has talked of the resolute and dynamic leadership that the country was fortunate in having. It was because of the political will displayed at a very early stage during the current financial year and because that will was translated into action, the economic programme etc., that this fortunate situation has arisen. Formerly, hands were idling engaged in mischief, they were put to work; feet were wandering aimlessly, they were made to go in a particular direction; more than that, the mind of people was attuned to mischief, that was cured and that mind was made to engage itself in constructive activities. That is the main reason for this very fortunate position in which the country finds itself today.

Another important event, and a very significant event too, is that we have been hearing a new voice on the Indian political scene of late. This voice does not speak to limited audiences in classrooms, lecture halls or chambers of specialists. It addresses itself to the broad masses of the people in the maidans of the country. This voice has a ring of freshness, is marked by clarity, sounds very genuine and shows real concern for the problems of the poor. This voice has done its best to go away with the cobwebs clogging our socio-economic thinking which earlier sought to identify every step by describing it in doctrinaire terms of rightist or leftist. There was a bold call that we should not be deterred from taking any step because somebody would criticise it as leftist or rightist, but we should be governed only by one consideration, and that is whether that is a right

[Shri O. V. Alagesan]

step by the people of this country. And this voice, to my mind, has created a climate of opinion in the country which has lifted the inhibitions which were getting in-buffed into our socio-economic thinking. This change in climate has been felt by the Finance Minister were than anybody else. Till now he found himself bound by the assiduously propagated shibboleths which were acting as shackles. He found them suddenly falling away and he was able to act more as a man of independent things. It was he, I should say, who was the first beneficiary of that particular item in the 20-point programme, namely freedom from bonded labour. He became a free man and he was able to act and it was as a result of that that we have a budget of this nature before us

This Budget has been generally welcomed by one and all. Even in this House there has been no carping criticism. Only the CPM may be said to have been unkind in its criticism. Even Shri Indrajit Gupta's criticism was very friendly because everybody recognises this Budget as the instrument of encouraging savings and investment.

This Budget puts the relationship between the tax gatherer and the taxpayer on a new basis for the first time. Up till now what has been the philosophy guiding successive Finance Ministers? The tax-payers were treated with suspicion. They were treated almost as criminals. As Mr. Indrajit Gupta had said yesterday, you have a danda in your hand to collect taxes. That mentality is an old mentality. In fact, we have been guided by that mentality. Now, we have chosen to walk away from that philosophy and adopt a new approach of faith in the tax-payers: that we will no more distrust him. On the other hand, we will treat him as a human being, who is likely to err as

you and I are likely to err. So, we have put this faith in him and this Budget represents an act of faith on the part of the Finance Minister and on the part of this Government. Doubts are expressed; it is said your hopes will be belied. You may not realise all that you want to realise by way of larger revenues, because of the disincentives you have provided to evade and avoid taxes. All this warning has been uttered. I don't think the Finance Minister is unmindful of this situation. It is not as if he is not going to be vigilant; he is going to be vigilant and see that his hopes are not belied but become fruitful. It is not based on mere kindness.

Last year, income tax was lowered and what was the result? With the lower taxation, the collections went up by Rs. 60 crores. Then some people wanted to pooh-pooh the voluntary disclosure scheme. It had been a success beyond the wildest imagination of people who conceived it. Nobody thought that we will have a disclosure of Rs. 1500 crores, but it was there. Should we not react to the situation? You lower the tax and collections are more. You allow certain concessions and people who have been hoarding, who have been called black-marketeers, who have been operating parallel economy, these very same people came forward to disclose their wealth and income, thereby easing the entire situation, easing the economy, easing the mind of one and all and removing the dread of black-market price. Should not the Government react to such a gesture, to such a response? Should we not respond to a response which has already been there? That is why, the Finance Minister has thought it fit to lower the taxes and yet invest more.

Then it was said that this is a Budget which benefits the rich people and the urban middle class people.

It is not a very correct statement in my views; it does benefit them. I do not deny. But it does not stop there. You may look at the reaction of the share market. In my view, the reaction of the share market—after the Budget proposals were made gives the lie direct to the accusation that this Budget is a rich man's budget or a budget which is oriented to help industrialists and other upper class of people. It also helps the rural people. There is a lot of force in the plea just now entered by my friend Mr. Krishnappa that whereas a farmer finds that his prices have gone down, the input prices have not gone down to that extent; It is still there

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER. Being mechanical is never my strong point. But you have taken ten minutes of the time rationed by your party. Now, what do you want me to do? You seem to have an impression that I am unkind to you about the time I allow you a little more time.

SHRI O V ALAGESAN. You should kindly be lenient. You do not take literally anything that I say.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER. You can take a few minutes more. I am just pointing out to you.

SHRI O V ALAGESAN. I would like to say that the mixed economy which has been guiding our economic policies has come into its own and has come to stay. This is true of both the sectors, public and private. For the first time, they have realised that one cannot do without the other. Formerly, there was mutual ill-will; there was a confrontation. One did not like the other. If the public sector grew or if there was more investment in the public sector, the private sector frowned on it. They said that it was something which was detrimental to their health. But now that situation obtains no more. Both the public sector and the

private sector have found by experience that one needs the other. Both are supplementary to each other. When one languishes, the other also languishes. The health of one depends on the health of the other.

Now, I would like to say something on the Plan arithmetic. We have been having Plans, First Plan, Second Plan, Third Plan and there were difficulties towards the beginning of the Third Plan. The Plan was divided into core Plan and non-core Plan due to foreign exchange difficulties. All these things happened. After three Plans went through, we had three Annual Plans. After three Annual Plans, we had the Fourth Plan. The Fifth Plan is supposed to have begun two years earlier. But strictly speaking, the Plans for these two years were also Annual Plans. They were not part of the integrated Fifth Plan because the Fifth Plan has yet to see the light of the day and has yet to be approved by this House, the Chief Ministers, etc. The Plans pertaining to the two years after the Fourth Plan have been Annual Plans. So, I would request the Finance Minister and also the authorities of the Planning Commission that the hopeful year of 1976-77 may be termed as the first year of the new Fifth Plan and that the planning process may begin on a very hopeful note and carried on to the benefit of the country.

Another matter that I would like to touch upon is family planning. It is a very important thing. The object of the family planning is to reduce the birth rate from 35 per thousand to 30 per thousand. Towards this end, they have spent huge sums of money. Last year, they spent Rs. 70 crores and this year also they propose to spend another Rs. 70 crores. In spite of this, there are threatening forecasts. We are told that in 1985-86, we will be having a population of

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70 crores and, by the end of the century, we will be having 100 crores. These threatening forecasts are there. But still we have to do our bit of work in the field of family planning.

There is one hitch. The States which push through family planning programme to a successful end or carry out the various programmes under family planning successfully, stand to lose because their population goes down. They lose their seats in the Lok Sabha. In fact, it has been the case with Tamil Nadu. We were having 41 seats in the Lok Sabha and now we are having 39 seats, that is, two seats less, for having sincerely and successfully carried out the family planning programmes.

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: There is a lot of migration taking place from Tamil Nadu to adjoining States. You send away people to adjoining States. That does not mean that there is a reduction in the birth in Tamil Nadu. (Interruption)

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: There is a reduction in population. We do not want to produce more children. But the people who carry out the family planning programmes in an efficient way should not be punished for that. I would like to suggest one thing, if at all it is possible—I do not know how to work out the mechanism—that you peg the population figures and population ratios at the year 1951 level and see that nobody suffers because of that particular State, this or that particular community pushed through the family planning programme rather successfully.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude now. I have already given you five minutes more. You have already taken more than 15 minutes.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: One point more; this is an important point. You will agree.

This is about workers' participation in industry. This has been al-

most a shop to the industrial workers. Even yesterday, the Labour Minister answered that there are '87 Central Government and departmental undertakings which have implemented the scheme of workers' participation in industry at shop floor and plant level. There are 87 private units also which have put through this programme. The Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., Pimpri, has taken workers' representatives as directors on its board. So also the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd., and the 14 nationalised banks. This is the information that has been vouchsafed by the Labour Minister. I would like to say two things in this connection. The workers in this country have come of age, do they need the help of outsiders to organise them and to lead them? The Railway labour, especially, with which I have some acquaintance, has come of age and it is as mature as any other labour in any part of the world. So, the leadership has to be found within the labour itself.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That point has been made; please come to the next point.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The next point is that I shall not be satisfied with their merely being given a so-called 'voice' in the management at the shop-floor and plant level. On the other hand, they should be given a share in the shareholding of the companies. I shall club public sector companies also under this rule; it is not only private sector companies but public sector companies also. We have invested as much as 6,000 crores in the public sector companies and one can calculate how much has been invested in the private sector companies. Even if a small percentage of the shareholding is thrown open to the workers, certainly that will mean savings and it will mean real participation of workers in various industries.

श्री० श्री सिंह (सचिव): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम जी ने जो बजट प्रस्तुत किया है, वह सदन से जा रहे हैं, माघ बघाई नहीं लेना चाहते हैं, उसके लिए लोगों ने उनको बघाई थी। मैं नहीं समझ पाया कि उस बघाई को उन्होंने किसी से ग्रहण किया या नहीं क्योंकि इस बजट को आप गरीब आदमी का बजट नहीं कह सकते हैं। यह किसान, गरीब और मजदूर का बजट नहीं है, सेठ का बजट इसको कह सकते हैं। अगर वह इस सेठ के बजट पर बघाई लेना पसन्द करते हैं तब तो बघाई मैं भी ले देना हूँ लेकिन अगर वह इस बात को पसन्द न करें, मैं समझता हूँ कि पसन्द नहीं करेंगे तो कोई बघाई देने वाली बात इस बजट में नहीं है।

अभी श्री कृष्णप्पा जी कह रहे थे कि एमरजेंसी के बर्तन में चुपके से किसान के ऊपर इस तरह से बोझ बढ़ाया गया है, जिससे किसी को पता भी न चले और वह बोल भी न सके। वाटर रेट दुगुने और तिगुने हो गये हैं और 100 परसेंट से भी ज्यादा कई जगह हो गये हैं। वीड रेवेन्यू भी तीन चार गुना तक हो गया है।

फटिलाइजर की कीमत तो 10 परसेंट कम करने की बात की है लेकिन अगर आप बजट को देखें तो चुपके से एक बीज और घा गई है। गहराई में न देखें तो उसका घना न चनेगा लेकिन बीजल के ऊपर डपटो बढ़ने की शक्ति भी इन्होंने अपने हाथ में ले ली है। किसान को चुपके से किसी दिन मुनने को मिलेगा कि बीजल की कीमत 50 से अधिक और बढ़ गई है।

किसान की इम्पुट्स की कीमत बढ़नी जा रही है, उसका खर्च बढ़ा जा रहा लेकिन उससे सामान की कीमत घटती जा रही

है। जिसको हम मोटा भनाज कहते हैं, उसको लेते वाला आज बाजार में कोई नहीं है। बाजरे की कीमत 50 रुपये क्विंटल से नीचे घा गई है और सरकार खरीदने को तैयार नहीं है। दूसरे और भनाजो—गेहूँ, चावल की कीमतें भी गिरी हैं। जो चीजे किसान पैदा करता है, उसकी कीमतें गिरी हैं जैसे गेहूँ, चावल, मोटा भनाज, आयल सीड, पलमेज और इंडस्ट्रियल रा-मैटीरियल वगैरा। लेकिन अगर आप देखें तो जो दूसरी मैन्युफैक्चर्ड गुड्स हैं, उनकी कीमतें नहीं गिरी।

हमें जो 'इकनामिक गर्व' दी गई है, उसमें पता चलता है कि मैन्युफैक्चर्ड गुड्स की कीमत केवल 1.4 परसेंट कम हुई है। फूड ग्रैन्स की कीमत 20 परसेंट, आयल सीड्स की 34 परसेंट, इंडस्ट्रियल रा-मैटीरियल की 20 परसेंट, पलमेज की 26 परसेंट कम हो गई है। तो जो किसान चीजें पैदा करता है, उनकी कीमतें ही गिरी हैं, बाकी की नहीं गिरी हैं।

ऐसी बात नहीं है कि चीजें बढ़ी नहीं हैं। फूड और पावर की कीमत 14.9 परसेंट बढ़ गई है। मशीनरी और ट्रांसपोर्ट की 10.8 परसेंट और कैमिकल्स की 12 परसेंट कीमत बढ़ गई है। दवायों की कीमत भी बढ़ी है। इसलिए मैं कहता हूँ कि यह सेठ का बजट है। जो चीजे सेठ और पूँजीपति पैदा करता है, पिछले अग्रे में भी उन की कीमतों में कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ा है, उनकी कीमतें वही हैं, बल्कि वे बढ़ गई हैं। लेकिन किसान की पैदा की हुई चीजों की कीमतें कम हो गई हैं।

पिछले साल किसान के माथ एक और मजबूत हुआ। कपास की कीमत इतनी ज्यादा गिरी कि किसान खोचने

[श्री. शेर सिंह]

सगा कि कपास पैदा कर्न या नहीं। जब कपास के खरीदने का वक़्त आया तो काटन कार्पोरेशन भी मैदान से भाग गई। उस को जितनी कपास खरीदनी चाहिए थी, उसने उतनी नहीं खरीदी -- बहुत कम खरीदी। सरकार उस से भी आगे बढ़ गई। उसने पाकिस्तान को ख़ुश करने के लिए उस से 25 करोड़ रुपये का काटन खरीदा। हमें इसमें कोई एनराज नहीं है कि पड़ोसी देश के साथ अच्छे सम्बन्ध स्थापित किये जायें। लेकिन वह भी तो उस का जवाब दे। पाकिस्तान आयरन और तो हजारों मील दूर से खरीदता है। वह हम से आयरन और नहीं खरीदता है, हालांकि हमारे पास बहुत आयरन और है। हमने पाकिस्तान से 25 करोड़ रुपये का काटन खरीदा, जब कि हमारे देश के किसानों का काटन कोई खरीदने वाला नहीं था। इस सरकार को यह खयाल नहीं आया कि अपने देश के किसानों का भी कुछ ध्यान रखें, और जो 25 करोड़ रुपया वह बाहर के किसानों को दे रही है, वह अपने किसानों को दे दे। इसमें पता चलता है कि इस सरकार को किसानों के लिए कितना दर्द है। इसी तरह जूट की प्राइमिज़ भी गिरी है। इसलिए यह कहना गलत है कि यह किसान या गरीब का बजट है। जैसा कि मैंने कहा है, यह मेठ का बजट है।

जहां तक प्राइमिज़ के गिरने का सम्बन्ध है, होल्सेल प्राइमिज़ तो गिरी है लेकिन रिटेल प्राइमिज़ में इतना फर्क नहीं पड़ा है। "आर्थिक समीक्षा" में कहा गया है।

"It is clear that the decline in consumer prices has been less pronounced than in wholesale prices".

किसान को दास का बाब एक क़ायम किया गया है, लेकिन सरकार द्वारा कोल्पापरेटिव आधार पर बसाये जा रहे सुपर बाज़ार में दास 1.80 रुपये किसी के हिसाब से बेची जाती है। बाकी बाज़ार को तो छोड़ दीजिए, जो सुपर बाज़र अधिक मुनाफ़ा न लेने के आधार पर चलाया जाता है, उस में भी 30.40 परसेंट मुनाफ़ा लिया जाता है।

सरकार की ओर से आदेश दिया गया है कि सभी बीजों और पैकेजिज़ आदि पर कीमन लिखी जायें। क्या इस का अर्थ यह है कि वे लोग अपनी इच्छानुसार चाहे कोई कीमत लिख दें। क्या सरकार इस बात का पता लगानी है कि अमूक बीज की होल्सेल प्राइम क्या है और रिटेल प्राइम कितनी लिखी हुई है, और क्या वह प्राइम ठीक है या नहीं? क्या गन्ने के टुकड़े पर कीमत लिख देने से बाघ पूरा हो गया? सरकार चाहती है कि हर एक बीज की कीमत लिखी जायें लेकिन वह ज़रूरी कीमत कितनी हो, इसकी उस को कोई चिन्ता नहीं है। जैसा कि मैंने कहा है रिटेल प्राइमिज़ में कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ा है। हमारे देश में मिडलमैन टर्गनोमी चल रही है। उसमें कनज्यूमर को भी लूटा जाता है और प्राइमर को भी लूटा जाता है और मिडलमैन-मेठ-मीज करते हैं। इसी लिए मैं कहता हूं कि यह मेठ का बजट है।

इस बात की बड़ी चर्चा है कि देश में पैदावार बहुत बढ़ी है। हम को इस बजट पर पांचवी योजना के मदर्भ में बिचार करना चाहिए।

श्री धनशेखर ने कहा कि दो अनुग्रह प्लान्स पूरी हो चुकी हैं और तीसरी चल रही है। अभी तक

हमारे प्लान की छुट्टी की हुई है। अभी तक पांचवी प्लान शुरू नहीं हुई है। लेकिन हम ने जो पांचवी प्लान बनाई थी, उसमें हमारा जो निशाना था, हम को उस के हिसाब से जांच करनी चाहिए कि खीन साकों में हमारी उपलब्धि क्या रही है। कहा गया है कि प्लान घाउटले में 31.6 परसेंट की बढ़ि हुई है। 1974-75, 1975-76 और 1976-77 के एनुअल प्लान के घाउटले 4844 करोड़ 5978 करोड़ और 7852 करोड़ रुपये के हैं, जो कुल मिला कर 18,674 करोड़ रुपये बनता है। पूरे पांच साल की योजना का टोटल घाउटले 37,250 करोड़ रुपये है। इसका मतलब यह है कि पांच साल के लिए जो प्लान घाउटले है, तीन साल में उसमें घाघा हुआ है। 60 परसेंट कम से कम होना चाहिए था, उसका घाघा हुआ है। तो इसके ऊपर कैसे हम अपने आप को कांफिडेंट करें कि हम बहुत आगे बढ़े हैं और बहुत तेजी से जा रहे हैं। योजना हम ने बनाई पांच साल की। उसमें कितना पीछे हम रह गये यह हम को देखना चाहिए।

इसी तरह अगर हम उत्पादन की ओर चलें तो हमारा निशाना था कि साढ़े पांच परसेंट उत्पादन हमारा बढ़ना चाहिए हर साल पांचवी योजना में। लेकिन 1973-74 में तो माइनस है और 74-75 में 2 परसेंट है। इस मान में हम सोच रहे हैं कि कुछ बढ़ेगा लेकिन वह बढ़ेगा केवल एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोडक्शन जो बढ़ा है उसका बजह से। उसमें श्रेय अगर किसी को जाना है तो भगवान को या किसान को। बागिन अच्छी हो गई, किसान ने मेहनत की तो उसमें अच्छा नतीजा मिल गया और वह भी इतनी अच्छी बागिन होने पर और किसान की इतनी मेहनत के बाद भी हम कहा कहा पहुंचे हैं हमारा ऐसा घन्टाजा है कि 11.4 करोड़ टन की पैदावार शायद हमारी हो जाय। (जबजबान)....
2942 LS-7.

मैं यह निवेदन कर रहा था कि यह तीसरा साल पांचवी पंच वर्षीय योजना का होता चाहिए था। उस का हिमाब लगाए तो पांचवी पंच वर्षीय योजना के पहले साल में इतनी प्रोडक्शन होनी चाहिए थी जो 23 साल में हो रही है। 11.4 करोड़ टन पैदावार 1974-75 में होनी चाहिए थी और उससे आगे बढ़ कर 14 करोड़ होनी चाहिए थी 78-79 में। लेकिन अभी तक हम 11.4 करोड़ जो पहले साल का लक्ष्य था वहां तक पहुंचे हैं और उसके बारे में भी अभी तक नहीं कह सकते कि इतना होगा हो। भगवान करे कि अच्छी बागिन हो और देश का फायदा हो। लेकिन अगर थोड़ी सी भी बागिन में कमी हो गई तो फिर पीछे को तर्फ चल पड़ेंगे, यह खतरा मौजूद है। क्योंकि हमने इन्फ्लेशन फैमिलिटीज जितनी हम कहने थे उसकी बढ़ाई नहीं।

20 सूत्री प्रोग्राम की बात कही जाती है। यह नये नये प्रोग्राम और नयी नयी स्कीमें चलाने की हमारी आदत पड़ गई है। पहले क्रेग प्रोग्राम फार रूरल एम्प्लायमेंट चलाया गया, स्कीम फार इंटेंसिव रूरल एम्प्लायमेंट चलाई गई, उस के बाद मिनिमम नीड्स प्रोग्राम रखा था पांचवी योजना में वह सब खत्म हो गया। अब 20 प्वाइंट प्रोग्राम आ गया, एंडहाक प्वाइंट बीच में दिमाग में कोई बात आ गई तो कह दिया यह भी हो जाय, यह भी हो जाय। उनका कोई इंटेंशन नहीं है, आपस में कोई संबंध नहीं है। लेकिन उसका इतना प्रचार कर दिया जैसे हदोस हो।

जिन मंत्री मद्दोदय ने किसानों के लिए और गांव के इंटेंग्रेटेड डेवलपमेंट के लिए एक छोटे से स्कीम जरूर प्रचारित की है हालांकि बजट में तो उसका कोई

[प्रो० शेर सिंह]

जिन्हें कहीं पर नहीं है। लेकिन इंटेग्रेटेड डेवलपमेंट देहात का हो यह उन्होंने पहली बार जरा अच्छे ढंग कहा है, उसके लिए मैं उनको बधाई जरूर दूंगा। उनके लिए बजट में कोई प्राविजन नहीं है सिवाय पन्द्रह करोड़ रुपये के और वह भी तजुबों के लिए है। ये तजुबों बहुत हो चुके, जैसे मैं ने कहा क्रेग स्कीम फार् रूरल एम्पलायमेंट का हुआ, विनिमय नीडन का भी हुआ, 20 प्वाइंट प्रोग्राम का चल रहा है। ये एम्प्लेयरमेंटस बहुत चल रहे हैं। एक तथा उन्होंने जो यह कहा यह बहुत ठीक है। लेकिन उसके ऊपर सब करवाएँ चीजों का। इस देश में कमी नहीं है चीजों की। प्राकृतिक संसाधन बहुत ज्यादा इस देश के पास हैं, शायद इन्ने किमी और देश के पास नहीं है। इस देश के पास जनशक्ति भी बहुत अधिक है। लेकिन इस जनशक्ति को उनके साथ जोड़ा नहीं। कैसे उस जनशक्ति का उपयोग करे उसके लिए लोगों को ट्रेनिंग नहीं दी एजुकेशन पर ध्यान नहीं दिया। ये भारी चीजे जब तक हम नहीं करेंगे तब तक कुछ होगा नहीं। पहले सब करें कि कितने माश्रन हैं। उन माश्रनों का उपयोग करने के लिए क्रिप ढंग के आदमी चाहिए, आदमियों को तैयार करने के लिए क्रिप ङ की शिक्षा चाहिए ये भारी चीजे जब तक नहीं करें तब तक कुछ नहीं कर पाएंगे। केवल हमारे पास वह चीजे भेजने से बान नहीं बनेगी। उसके ऊपर अमच करने की तरफ कदम बढ़ाएंगे तब हम कुछ कर पाएंगे। बरना जो कुछ हमने कहा उसे कुछ प्रभाव नहीं होगा। यह क्रिमान को हम कहते रहेंगे कि हम तुम्हारे लिए कर रहे हैं, तुम्हारे लिए प्रोग्राम बना रहे हैं और गो कुछ नहीं।

अनएम्पलायमेंट बढ़री जा रही है। इस वक्त साढ़े पन्द्रह करोड़ आदमी हैं देहात का जिस को एम्पलायमेंट मिलनी चाहिए। जो हमारी लेबर फोर्स है साढ़े पन्द्रह करोड़ की उसमें में से मैं समझता हूं पांच छ करोड़ आदमी ऐसे जरूर हैं जो अन्डर एम्पलायड, अनएम्पलायड या थिनली एम्पलायड हैं और उन के लिए हमारी योजना में कुछ नहीं है। 30 प्रतिशत जो गरीब आदमी हैं वह 13 प्रतिशत कन्ज्यूम करता है जो परमनन्स कन्जम्पशन की चीजें हैं। हम ने कितना उन के अन्डर बढ़ाया है? गरीबी मिटाने की बात तो हम करते हैं। अनएम्पलायमेंट दूर करने के लिए हमने कोई बान कही? कितने परसेंट एम्पलायमेंट प्रोवाइड कर सकेगें? मेल्क एम्पलायड सेक्टर में कितना कर सकेगें। देहात के साढ़े पांच करोड़ आदमी बेरोजगार हैं उनको कैसे रोजगार देंगे। जो कन्जम्पशन का नेबल नीचा हाउस को कैसे ऊपर बढ़ाएंगे इनके बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा गया है। मैं चाहूंगा कि इन बातों के ऊपर मंत्री महोदय रोगनी डालें।

श्री नटवर लाल पटेल (मेहसाना) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, आपने मुझे इस बजट पर बोलने का मौका दिया इसलिए मैं आपका बड़ा आभारी हूँ। इस माननीय सदन में माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो बजट पेश किया है मैं उसका स्वागत करता हूँ और एक बिल्कुल अच्छा बजट पेश करने के लिए मन्त्री जी को और मंत्रालय के सभी कर्मचारी भाई बहनों को बधाई देता हूँ। बजट आने से पहले गन वर्षों से हमारे देश में क्या परिस्थिति होती थी वह हम जानते हैं। बजट आने से पहले भावों में कभी कभी काफी बढ़ि हो जाती थी, कभी कभी भावों में काफी घटा आ जाता था। इस साल बजट आने से पहले न तो भावों में कोई बढ़ि हुई और न भावों में कोई

चाटा गया। मैं समझता हूँ यह मंत्रालय की और माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी की बड़ी महान सिद्धि है। दूसरी बात यह भी है कि बजट देने के बाद पहले ऐसा होता रहा है कि बजट सुनने के बाद कुछ लोगों को हमारे देश में नींद की टेब्लेट लेकर सोना पड़ता था। कुछ लोगों को बजट सुनने के बाद हार्ट की बीमारी आ जाती थी। इस बजट के देने के बाद जिन्होंने ने भी हमारे देश में बजट को सुना उनमें न तो किसी को हार्ट की बीमारी हुई, न किसी को कोई घक्का लगा और न ही सोने के लिए नींद की गोनियाँ लेनी पड़ी। इससे लिए मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

मेरी नजर में यह बजट एक प्रोग्रेसिव बजट है। देश को आगे ले जाने के लिए और देश की तरक्की के लिए यह बजट काफी अच्छा है—इस बात को कहने में मुझे बड़ी खुशी होती है। मैं जानता हूँ कि वित्त मंत्री जी की जिम्मेदारी भबने बड़ी है। अगर वे चाहें भी तब भी सबको खुश नही कर सकते हैं लेकिन इस बार ऐसा हुआ कि देश के सभी वर्गों को माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने खुश करने की कोशिश की है। मैं समझता हूँ इस वजह से देश के सभी वर्गों को थोड़ा बहुत फायदा होने वाला है। मुझे एक बात कह देनी चाहिए कि हमारे देश में जो इंडस्ट्री चल रही हैं उनको इन्फ्लेटिव देना ही था। इंडस्ट्री को अगर इन्फ्लेटिव नहीं देते, उनको रोकफ नहीं देते तो परिस्थिति काफी खराब हो जाती—इस बात में कोई शक नहीं है। नाथू शी माथ मैं मंत्री जी की बगाना चाहता हूँ कि देश में जिनने भी उद्योग चलते हैं वह ठीक ठंग से चलें उद्योग बंद न हों, जो लोग उद्योग चला रहे हैं उनको भी उद्योग चलाने के लिए काफी सुविधाएँ मिलें यह नारे बातें हमें सोचनी चाहिए। जितने भी उद्योग चलते हैं उनको नजर

में रखकर हमारा बजट होना चाहिए। सही बात तो यह है कि जब बजट बाहर निकला तो इंडस्ट्री चलाने वाले अपनी नजर से बजट को देखते रहे और बिजनेस करने वाले अपने खयाल से बजट को देखते रहे। मैं देहान में आ रहा हूँ और मैं किसान का प्रतिनिधि हूँ इसलिए मैं एक किसान की दृष्टि से बजट को देखना चाहता हूँ। सही बात यह है कि हमारे देश में उद्योग चल रहे हैं, काफी उद्योग चल रहे हैं लेकिन मेरे खयाल से 80 प्रतिशत लोग खेती के उद्योग से अपनी रोटी रोटी पाने हैं। मैं आगे बढ़कर यह भी बता सकता हूँ कि देहान में रहने वाले 80 प्रतिशत लोग अपना गुजारा खेती के इंडस्ट्रीज से करते हैं। अब समय आ गया है कि इस देश में खेती को बड़ी इंडस्ट्री समझकर चलायें। यदि ऐसा नहीं करते हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ हमको आगे बढ़ने में काफी रुकाव आयेगी। इस बजट में किसान के लिये कुछ नहीं हुआ, उसको कोई राहत नहीं मिली। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी किसान को भूल गये हैं ऐसा तो मैं नहीं कहूँगा। फटिलाइजर के भावों में कमी हुई है, फास्फेटिक फटिलाइजर के भावों में जो कमी हुई है उससे किसानों को जरूर फायदा होगा, लेकिन यूरिया के भाव में केवल 100 रुपये की ही कमी हुई है, इससे किसान को विशेष फायदा नहीं होगा। गुजरात और गुजरात जैसे अन्य राज्यों में यूरिया फटिलाइजर ज्यादा उपयोग में आता है, वहाँ के किसान यूरिया फटिलाइजर का इस्तेमाल ज्यादा करते हैं, केवल 100 रुपये टन लाभ कम करने से काम नहीं चलेगा। देश के किसान चाहते थे कि यूरिया फटिलाइजर में कम से कम 500 रुपये टन कम किया जाता, यदि इतना सम्भव नहीं था तो दो या तीन सौ रुपये टन भी कम कर दिया जाता, तो उससे भी किसानों को कुछ लाभ हो सकता था।

[बी नटवर लाल पटेल]

यहाँ पर मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी के सामने एक सुझाव रखना चाहता हूँ—
घाज भी इक्वलाइजेशन फण्ड की स्कीम चालू है, इसके जरिये सरकार को 265 रुपया टन मिलता है। यूरिया में जो 100 रुपया टन कम किया गया है, वह इसमें से मीट करने के बाद भी सरकार के पास 165 रुपया टन बच जाता है। आप यह जानते ही हैं कि इक्वलाइजेशन फण्ड की स्कीम उस समय शुरू की गई थी, जब हम फर्टिलाइजर बाहर से इम्पोर्ट करने थे और उसमें सरकार को काफी बाटा होता था, उसको मीट करने के लिये इस फण्ड को चालू किया गया था। अब हमने यह तय कर लिया है कि बाहर से फर्टिलाइजर नहीं मंगायेगे, तब फिर इक्वलाइजेशन फण्ड जारी रखने से कोई फायदा नहीं है। मेरा सुझाव है कि यह 165 रुपया जो हम अभी भी कर्लैक्ट कर रहे हैं, इसको छोड़ देना चाहिये और इसका रिलीफ यूरिया में देना चाहिये। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ—माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी गम्भीरता से मेरे सुझाव पर विचार करेंगे और शीघ्र ही इस सम्बन्ध में कार्यवाही करेंगे।

दूसरी बात मुझे यह निवेदन करनी है—
एग्जीक्यूटिव प्रोड्यूस के लावो में काफी गिरावट आई है, इसको प्राइस सपोर्ट देना बहुत जरूरी है। प्राइस सपोर्ट के बारे में सरकार विचार कर रही है। जब हम यहाँ इस सम्बन्ध में मैन्युअल गवर्नमेंट से बान करते हैं तो हमें कहा जाता है कि यह जिम्मेदारी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की है। अब हम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से पूछते हैं तो वे जवाब देते हैं कि हम प्राइस सपोर्ट देने को तैयार हैं, खरीद के लिये तैयार हैं, लेकिन हमारे पास पैसा नहीं है। जब हम एग्जीक्यूटिव मिनिस्ट्री से पैसे की बात करते हैं तो वे जवाब देते हैं कि हम क्या करें, एक पैसा भी लेना हो तो प्रनव मुखर्जी साहब के पास या मुखर्ज्याय्य साहब के पास जाना पड़ता है। मैं प्रनव मुखर्जी साहब को बतलाना चाहता

हूँ—आपको इस सम्बन्ध में कोई न कोई पालिसी बनानी होगी। आप चाहें तो सेंटर के जरिये ही प्राइस सपोर्ट का काम करें और यदि यह जिम्मेदारी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को देना चाहते हैं तो उसके लिये एग्जीक्यूटिव फाइनेन्स की व्यवस्था आपको बजट में करनी होगी। यदि आप ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं करेंगे तो कृषि पदार्थों के भावों में जो गिरावट आई है वह चलती रहेगी तथा इसका असर दूसरे साल की फसल पर पड़ेगा। वर्तमान स्थिति को देखते हुए हमें कोई ऐसी पालिसी बनानी चाहिये जिससे गिरते हुए भाव सेवन से ज्यादा न गिरे।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने इस बजट के द्वारा काफी राहत सभी वर्गों को दी है, लेकिन मुझे कुछ ऐसा अनुभव होता है कि जिन को ज्यादा राहत देना जरूरी था, उनको कम राहत मिली है और जिनको कम राहत देना जरूरी था, उनको थोड़ा बहुत ज्यादा राहत मिल गयी है। जहाँ तक इन्कम टैक्स का सवाल है, मेरे पास अखबार है, उसमें मैं मंत्री जी को बतला सकता हूँ—जिनकी आमदनी 15000 रुपये की है उनको 154 रुपये का रिलीफ मिला है, यानी दस रकम पर घाज तक वे जो इन्कमटैक्स भरते थे, अब उससे 154 रुपया कम भरना पड़ेगा। जिनको दो लाख ६० की आमदनी है उनको एक लाख नौ हजार एक सौ बीस ६० टैक्स देना पड़ना था लेकिन अब उनको 21,000 ६० कम देना पड़ेगा। तो 2 लाख की जिनको कमाई होती है उनको ज्यादा रिलीफ मिला है, और 15,000 ६० आमदनी वाले को कम रिलीफ मिला है। जबकि होना इसका बिल्कुल उल्टा चाहिये था। हम को कमजोर को ऊपर उठाने की कोशिश करनी चाहिये, और जो तगड़े हैं, मैं यह नहीं कहता कि उनको बिल्कुल रिलीफ नहीं मिलनी चाहिये थी, लेकिन ज्यादा रिलीफ उनको नहीं मिलनी चाहिये थी।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. That is a very good point to conclude with.

जी बटवर बाब बडेन : मैं बोलना तो 15 मिनट चाहता था, लेकिन आपने मुझे 10 मिनट ही दिये। हमलिये जो भी समय मुझे आपने दिया उसके लिये मैं आपका आभारी हूँ। वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो बजट पेश किया है उसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ, और उनको तथा उनके मंत्रालय के सभी कर्मचारियों को भी बधाई देता हूँ।

DR. KAILAS (Bombay South): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I stand to congratulate the Finance Minister and his colleagues for presenting a very well balanced budget for the year 1976-77. As we all know that the Budget shapes the economy of the nation. The Budget has also an impact on the economy as a whole. This Budget I think, definitely gives incentive, serves as an all-time booster in every sector of our economic life.

The Finance Minister had waged war against inflation some months back and we saw very good results and inflation is now a matter of past. Now the Finance Minister is waging war against the recession in some sectors to build economy and to save the labour from the difficulties arising out of it. He has given orientation to this Budget for all round growth and incentive to the people to renovate their machinery so that Government does not reach at that level as to take over such seek undertakings and then try to run them by investing huge amounts.

The priorities have also been very well laid, looking to the assurances given every time that there will be at least 55 per cent growth.

We and the Opposition have been very much worried because of the unchallenged growth of unemployed people, whether they are educated or uneducated. All care has been taken that a large number of industries could be established not only in the private sector but also in the public sector or by expansion of existing industries so that maximum number of people could be absorbed.

The base of our economy is agriculture. Agriculture should have its roots not depending on rains but it should have irrigational facilities and electricity all the time to use whenever required. Care has been taken that irrigational facilities will be provided, no doubt, it will take a little time. Hence large sum of money has been provided also for generation of electricity. Thus it is hoped that it will be useful both for agricultural production as well as production in our factories. We were very much worried about the stabilisation of prices and when Prof. Sher Singh was speaking I felt that he had not read the Budget in that context in which it should have been read. Perhaps he did not see the overall situation in the country and he was trying to criticise on minor points. At least I will quote you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, one instance. When he was himself a Minister some few thousands of cotton bales of high-yielding variety or long-staple cotton was imported from Pakistan. Sir, he forgets that our country does not produce as much long staple cotton as is needed by our textile mills, handloom or powerloom industry. This had no political motive at all. It can perhaps be taken as a political motive, but, definitely the decision was taken that we should try to save the transport charges by importing cotton from the nearest available market and try to supply so much of cotton as is needed at least to those 104 nationalised textile mills and other mills which were starving of long-staple cotton.

I may now take up another point in which I do agree with Prof. Sher Singh. The price as he rightly said has stabilised at lower level in wholesale market but it has not been reflected in the retail market. The Finance Minister has now taken care that the distribution system is so stabilised and so far-flung that these lower prices are reflected in the retail market also. Sir, now I speak on other point that the economy of our country depends very much on maximum of exports and minimum of imports. We export in terms of crores of rupees worth the

[Dr. Kailash]

ready-made garments. Our textile mills were producing superfine and fine cloth as also the handloom as well as the powerloom cloth in the form of ready-made garments to meet the demand of a good number of countries. This superfine and fine cloth was converted into readymade garments and hence it was in the fitness of things that the duty has been taken away for boosting the export of these readymade garments.

I would suggest that we should try to reduce the duty on coal and steel also which we are producing above our requirements. We have now got them in sufficient quantities and hence can be exported very easily and with profit. The Engineering goods is another example where one should take care of these products and should try to earn as much as possible by export.

Now about direct taxation, I feel that the taxes on corporate sector have been scientifically put in this budget and I am sure the businessmen who were trying to manipulate books of accounts to save more money which created more black money, will surely behave well. But the Finance Minister will have to be careful in seeing that when these taxes have been reduced from 77 per cent to 66 per cent, these businessmen behave well and if they do not behave well, a heavy hand should fall on them.

I expected some relief for the middle-class people. Today, under the ESI Scheme, a person drawing Rs 1000 has now been taken under its fold and gets the medical relief benefit under the scheme. As also, since the value of the rupee has gone down, I am suggesting that the exemption limit of 8000 should be raised to 12,000. The Finance Minister in his speech has admitted that by raising the limit to 8,000 the income-tax department has not collected less amount rather the collections have gone up. By increasing this limit he will not lose much revenue but the salaried class will get immense relief.

Why has it happened when the limit was raised from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 8,000? The small income group—those who are in fixed income groups, that is, who are working, and getting fixed salary got benefit and Government did not lose much. Naturally they are very much hard hit by this limit not being raised to Rs 12,000. To-day this Rs 8,000 has no basis at all and hence the limit should have been increased, according to my calculations, to Rs. 12,000. The Finance Minister should give a little more relief to the salaried class people who constitute a maximum number of the population in this country, especially in Railways, Post, and Telegraph and other Government Services.

It is good that the Finance Minister could understand that misuse of concession to undivided Hindu family. There used to be so many duplications—not duplication of books—but actually the Chartered Accountants used to advise such people to take the benefit under Hindu undivided family scheme. It is now rightly explained by the Finance Minister that the HUF would now be taken on a different footing and levied taxes to root out this corruption.

Sir, the public undertakings are the largest undertakings and they are reaching the commanding heights. If all the public undertakings start earning sufficiently well I think they will start earning very soon. Then in the past five or ten years the incidence of the direct taxation which puts a burden on the common man will be reduced. The burden of taxation should remain only on such people, who perhaps have ostentations living or those who are trying to spend lavishly. You may tax common man even, but please do not put so much of burden on the common man or middle class people. But once the public undertakings start earning they should be the first to get relief. Hence, it is not only the duty of the Finance Minister but there should also be a coordination cell between those ministries which are controlling the different undertakings to see that the expenditure of Public

Undertakings is controlled; their prices are suitably fixed in such a way that they can sell their goods not only in India but also outside as export.

Sir, in our Public Undertakings, there are two very large undertakings which are run on a commercial basis—they are the Railways and the P&T. They have also got a duty and obligation to society. It is unfortunate that just before the Budget Session was about to start, the postal charges had been increased specially on the Money Orders. I come from Bombay and I have got relationship with the labour class, lakhs and lakhs of rupees per month are being sent by Money Orders by these people to the villages from Bombay. I do not think these small people should have been taxed through Money Orders. I do not think moneyed people ever utilise the Money Order facilities. Hence it is these labour class people who have been very much hard hit. And hence I say that these undertakings should do their duty not so much as commercial but as social obligations also. It is better that they should try to be more efficient in helping the people.

I shall sit down after this point. I was studying the plan outlay in different departments. I saw that under the head 'water supply' for Delhi. Only Rs 123 crore, have been earmarked under water supply. The break-up of that is—Rs 59.5 lakhs have been provided for the disposal of urban waste—a very negligible amount—and Rs 45 lakhs have been provided for conversion of dry latrines and into sanitary blocks and Rs 16 lakhs only have been provided for the water pollution prevention board. The Finance Minister should have done more justice to Delhi when the population of Delhi goes on increasing. These latrines and other facilities are being utilised by the common man and hence, I feel, that this outlay has been very much less.

Sir, Dr V. K. R. V. Rao and Shri Indrajit Gupta had talked about high

excise duty on the drugs, which are patented. Although the Finance Minister has come with a hard stick and I also feel that these drugs are very necessary as these are lifesaving. But I suggest that in our government hospitals, a small sum can be earmarked—I mean in those hospitals which are run by either the Central Government, State Governments or the Municipal Corporation—where these drugs can be sold to the poor people at previous price pre-taxation price which would give relief to such people who are not rich people. Rich people can definitely buy these drugs even after this duty as when these drugs were not available in India, they got them from Singapore or Colombo or anywhere else. So, I did not like that they should be shown any mercy for paying more on these patented drugs. I therefore do not agree with Dr. Rao and Shri Indrajit Gupta on this point.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The hon. Member should now conclude.

DR KAILAS It is unfortunate that a large number of people give their names but they do not remain present. When we sit here and speak you ask us to conclude why this time should not be allotted to us or redistributed fresh this time. Three people were absent and the Deputy Speaker has saved 30 minutes.

Still I got two or three minutes more. You were very courteous, to me in giving me more time.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER You have made very many good points.

DR KAILAS There is no question of good or bad. I want that there should be re-distribution of time. Supposing out of 50 Members ten are absent then the time should be re-distributed into 40 Members.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is your intra-Party question.

SHRIMATI MUKUL BANERJI (New Delhi). Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for bringing this budget which has been welcomed by so many people everywhere. Also without minimising the credit of the Finance Minister and his colleagues, I would like to congratulate our dynamic leader, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, as, it is to a great extent, because of her action at proper time in bringing emergency and saving the country and also by bringing MISA and other timely measures that we have been able to stabilise our economy and it has been possible to bring this type of budget.

I am also very happy that the prices of essential consumer goods have come down and the amendment in wealth tax will invite foreign capital from Indians abroad. Some months ago I had been to United Kingdom and there I found so many Indians who have earned a lot of money are interested to invest in India but they were afraid of the taxes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER Relief has been given

SHRIMATI MUKUL BANERJI I welcome this measure but at the same time I would request the Government to make enough propaganda of this measure so that everybody outside India knows about it and I am hopeful this will bring into India enormous amount of money. I do not agree with Prof. Sher Singh when he says that this is only a budget for the 'haves' and not for the poor. I find here that a lot of relief has been given to the farmers. Fertilizers' prices have gone down Phosphate prices have been reduced Persons possessing 80 sq. yds. houses will not have to pay taxes for five years Then there is reduction in aluminium, synthetics, plastics and tyres and tubes. In the villages tyres and tubes are used in the bicycles.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The relief is only in respect of a tyre and a tube with the new car.

SHRIMATI MUKUL BANERJI: I was told it covers cycle tyres also. Further, the middle class salaried group has been benefited because of reduction in essential commodities prices. At the same time I feel, the Compulsory Deposit Scheme which, on behalf of the Government, they promised to end by July 1976, has been extended for another year. If we can get this amount from other sources it would be better I know these resources have been counted in the present budget and the amount is more than Rs. 400 crores but it would be better if we could get these resources from other sources and do not impound this amount any more.

14.00 hrs.

Sir, I expected that the petrol prices would have been reduced in this new budget as that the taxis and scooters will come within the reach of the common people Further, I feel that in this tax relief, there is a little bit of slant in favour of the urban dwellers. Stability of prices of essential commodities will ultimately depend on the incentives given to the producer. But emphasis on more production may recoil on the producers if the priceline of procurement is not held properly. At the same time, if the surplus produce is not taken by Government, that will also create difficulties for the producer I say this because yesterday I read in the papers that in the Mejha tehsil in Allahabad and also in some other places, the Food Corporation is not procuring grain and in some cases distress selling of foodgrains is going on So the Food Ministry and the Food Corporation should take more care in giving help to these small farmers; otherwise, the whole purpose of more production will be defeated.

I am also happy that this time the Finance Minister has introduced a

strategy for integrated rural development. As I read the pamphlet through and through, I find that more stress has been laid on giving employment to unemployed youth on agrobased and animal-based industries. Does this mean that we are emphasising gober gas plants, poultry and so on? Unless we bring about a very big social change in the minds of the rural youth, we cannot have real socialism in the country. I feel that instead of having big factories, we can have small electro-mechanical factories in villages. Specially wherever there are big factories, if we have small satellite industries in small places in the rural areas adjoining those factories, it will help in giving employment. In countries like Japan, every house has a small industry. Gandhiji also thought on those lines. That will, to a very great extent, help the poor people. Also by this we can bring about a very big social change in the rural structure. For this trained personnel is necessary. Therefore, special emphasis should be given for training rural youth and enough budget should be provided for that. This will enable them to handle the machines and so on and man the industries in the villages. This is my suggestion.

For having this, vocational training is very necessary. I feel that a resolution is absolutely necessary in the education system. The present education system will not help to a very great extent. Only the very talented people should go for higher education; the other people should go for this vocational training. Then only the whole object of rural reconstruction can be achieved.

When I speak about education, I have to mention our twenty-point programme which insists that we should give relief to the poor people. I remember the hon. Minister of Education also said in this House that the teachers' pay would be decided keeping in view the Third Pay Commission's Report. But I find that the

salary of primary teachers starts from Rs. 350, that of middle teachers from Rs. 450 and that of secondary teachers at Rs. 550, whereas for the Principals the Pay Commission had suggested a start of Rs. 1050 which the Education Ministry has raised to Rs. 1100. The primary, middle and secondary teachers, who constitute the majority of teachers in India, who are the builders of the future citizens of India, are not looked after well. Instead of giving relief at the higher level only, we should give relief to them. I feel that the Education Ministry should take proper care about them. About medicine. I would like to say that I am against alcohol, but most of the homeopathic medicines are alcohol based. So, proper care should be taken about homeopathic medicines and also the emergency medicines which are vital to the poor patients. Otherwise, basically I am against giving any relief to the patent medicines. Lastly I once again appreciate the budget and I support this budget on behalf of the people of India.

श्री बी० प्रार० शुक्ला (बहराइच) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस वर्ष के बजट प्रस्तावों का देश में सर्व-व्यापक स्वागत हुआ है। मैं श्री विप. मंत्री को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने देश के सामने इतना संतोषप्रद बजट प्रस्तुत किया है। पिछले कुछ दिनों में अभाव, राजनैतिक आन्दोलन और असंतोष के कारण देश में एक ऐसा वातावरण बन गया था, जिस के कारण मूल्यों में अस्थिरता थी, लोग कतारें बना कर खड़े होने थे, लेकिन उन को चीजें नहीं मिलती थीं। आज इस बजट प्रस्तावों से निराशा कुछ उन लोगों को हुई है, जो जनता की कठिनाइयों को सोड़ी बना कर शासन की कुर्सी पर बैठना चाहते थे, या जो कल-कारखानों में हड़ताल कराना चाहते थे। बाकी किसी को इन बजट-प्रस्तावों से असंतोष नहीं है।

यह ठीक है कि इस देश में गरीबी वताब्दियों से चली आ रही है और करोड़ों

[श्री बी. धार. सुकुला]

की संख्या में लोग घरीबी की लाइन के नीचे रह रहे हैं, और इस बजट के द्वारा हम उनकी स्थिति में सुधार करने में बहुत अच्छे दर्जे तक सफल नहीं हो रहे हैं। लेकिन हमें यह याद रखना चाहिए कि यह बजट एक मिश्रित अर्थ-व्यवस्था पर आधारित है, और जो खामियो इस व्यवस्था में होती हैं, उनको एक या दो वर्षों में दूर नहीं किया जा सकता है।

आज विश्व में चारों ओर इनफ्लेशन का वातावरण है। बहुत से देशों में मंदी का भी प्रभाव पड़ा है। भारत को यह श्रेय प्राप्त है कि वह इस इनफ्लेशन को बहुत हद तक नियंत्रित करने में सफल हुआ है। लोग कहते हैं कि इस बजट से सेठों और महाजनों को फायदा हुआ है, अगर कारों के दामों में, या एक्साइज ड्यूटी में, कमी होती है, या इनकम टैक्स में कमी होती है, तो उससे कुछ ही लोग लाभान्वित होते हैं। उनका कहना है कि कृषकराजों के द्वारा जो चीजें पैदा की जाती हैं, उनके मूल्य में कमी हुई है। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि कृषकराज जो अनाज पैदा करता है, उस पर कोई उत्पादनबशुल्क नहीं लगता है। लेकिन एक इण्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट जो चीज पैदा करता है, कुछ खर्चा तो उसके पैदा करने में लगता है, अगर उसके अनाज बर्बनमेंट की तरफ से टेरिफ और एक्साइज ड्यूटी के रूप में इतना भार लद जाना है, जो कनज्यूमर को पाम हो जाना है। इसलिए कल-कारखानों में जो सामान बनता है, उसके दाम के बारे में जिम्मेदारी केवल कल-कारखानों के मालिकों की नहीं है, बल्कि उसकी कुछ जिम्मेदारी गवर्नमेंट के टेक्निक पर भी है। जब तक उसमें काफी कमी न की जाये तब तक कल-कारखानों में बनने वाले माल और वृषि में पैदा होने वाले माल के दामों में समानता नहीं आ सकती है। अब यह गया यह कि इन देश का मेरुदण्ड कृषकराज है क्योंकि वहीं सबसे अधिक संख्या में है और इसके बाद उन लोगों की अधिक

संख्या आती है जो कि खेतिहर मजदूर हैं और शहर के मजदूर हैं। खेतिहर मजदूर की वह बड़ी कृषकराज की समृद्धि पर निर्भर है। अगर कृषकराज को कम पैसा मिलता है अपने अनाज का तो वह अपने मजदूरों को भी कम पैसा देगा। इसलिए हमें इस बात की चिन्ता हो गई है कि कृषकराज की पैदावार के दामों में अगर बहुत बड़ी गिरावट होती है तो उसका सीधा प्रभाव मजदूर के ऊपर पड़ेगा, कृषकराज के ऊपर पड़ेगा, उसकी क्रय शक्ति कम होगी और हमारे कल-कारखानों में जो माल बनेगा उसकी खपत नहीं हो सकती है। लेकिन इस पृष्ठभूमि में हमें यह भी देखना चाहिए कि कुछ वर्ष पहले जब देश में अन्न की कमी हो गई थी मूल्य के कारण यह वर्तमान के कारण तो उसका परिणाम सीधे तौर पर यह हुआ कि देश के जो बड़े बड़े कृषकराज या भूस्वामी थे उन्होंने इस स्थिति का इनाम नायायज फायदा उठाया कि माफ़े चार रुपये, पांच रुपये और ढाई रुपये किलो उन्होंने वेहूँ योजना शुरू कर दिया। उस पृष्ठभूमि में देखें और इन वक्त की हालत देखें तो 60 रुपये क्विंटल धान का दाम है, 90-95 रुपये क्विंटल गेहूँ का दाम है, तो उसके मर्चाबले में तो ऐसा मानना होता है कि बड़े भारी गिरावट आई है लेकिन यह हम लोगों को भूलना नहीं चाहिए कि वह अनाधारण परिस्थिति जिसमें कि ढाई सौ, 300 या डेढ़ सौ रुपये क्विंटल गेहूँ बिक और लोग खजाना हाँती वह स्थिति अब कृषकराज की नहीं आनी है। हाँ, जो बहुत गिरावट आ गई है उसको रोकने के लिये प्रयत्न करना चाहिए।

इस मदर्थ में मैं न्यायालय का ध्यान आप के माध्यम में दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जो खाद्य निगम है इसका चलन बहुत खराब है। इसका कोई जन-सम्पर्क नहीं है। इसके एक्ट्स वहाँ पर खरीदते हैं वहाँ वह किसी से सम्बन्ध नहीं रखते हैं। वे बिल्कुल उदासीन और निरपेक्ष हैं और हर जगह पर स्थानीय

व्यापारियों से मिल कर कारखानों को लूटना और लूटकरावा चाहते हैं। हम सब लोग राजनीतिक व्यक्ति प्रोपेन्डेंस और प्रचार के लिए जाते थे उन दिनों में जबकि अब नहीं मिलता था और कारखानों को यह समझाते थे कि देश के हित में, राष्ट्र के हित में वे अपना गल्ला कम दाम पर बेचे और गवर्नमेंट के हाथ में बेचें। उस समय तो हम लोगों ने इतना प्रयत्न किया और अब दूसरी तरफ जब उनके गल्ले का दाम सस्ता होता जा रहा है तो वह पूछते हैं कि उस समय तो आप हमें समझाते थे कि राष्ट्र के हित में गल्ला हम उनके हाथ बेचे आज हमारे जिन की बात सरकार को क्यों नहीं समझाते हैं, आप उनसे यह क्यों नहीं कहते हैं कि खाद्य निगम जो समर्थन मूल्य है वह देश के हित में गल्ला खरीदे ? रबी के गल्ले को खरीदने का अधिधान चलने वाला है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि दूकाने में खरीदने के लिए अभी से खोल दी जाय और समर्थन मूल्य पर लोगों का गेह खरीदा जाय। इसमें कारखानों की बहवृद्धि होगी, उनकी उन्नति होगी और देश का हमसे कल्याण होगा।

दूसरी बात जिसकी ओर मैं ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि कल कारखाने बड़े, उद्यम बड़े देश का आर्थिक विकास हों, लेकिन हमारे जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं उनके लिए गवर्नमेंट कुछ नहीं कर रही है। गवर्नमेंट को यह नियम बना लेना चाहिए कि नये कारखाने जितने भी खोले जाय उनका लाइसेंस केवल उन्हीं व्यापारियों को दिया जाय जो इस बात पर नज़र हों कि वह अपने कल-कारखाने आधुनिक दृष्टि में, आर्थिक दृष्टि में पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्रों में खोलेंगे। वरना बड़े बड़े महान् बनेंगे, बड़ी बड़ी कोठियां बनेंगी, देश में कुछ लोग समृद्धिवादी हो जाएंगे लेकिन वह तमाम लोग जो ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रहते हैं उनकी गरीबी अभी दूर नहीं हो सकती है। उनको दूर करने का केवल एक ही तरीका है कि गांवों में उद्योग खोलें

ले जाएं जाय और ज्यादा से ज्यादा आदमियों को उद्योग क्षेत्रों में काम करने का मौका मिले। बड़े बड़े शहरों में कल कारखानों केन्द्रित न होकर सब देशों की ओर उन्मुख होंगे तब देश की बहवृद्धि हो सकती है।

जहां तक कन्ज्यूमर गुड्स का सम्बन्ध है अब तो सस्ता हो गया लेकिन आप जानते होंगे कि अभी मछली के दाम में कोई भारी कमी नहीं आई है। रन्ड के दाम में भी कुछ कमी आई है, मक्खन के दाम में कमी आई है और कहीं कहीं पर जहां डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट प्रचार कराना चाहते हैं कि वह बहुत अच्छा काम कर रहे हैं तो वह कहीं कहीं आर्डर निवाला देते हैं कि पांच पैसे या दो पैसे गोटों के दाम में कमी कर दी गई है। इसमें कुछ नहीं होगा। कन्ज्यूमर गुड्स का है उनकी प्राइम स्ट्रक्चर की फिक्स्ड की जाये और उनी पर बेचा जाये। इन चीजों का बाहुन्य, ज़खीरा हो गया है। लेकिन इन के मूल्य में कोई अच्छी खानी गिरावट नहीं आई है। तो जिनकी कन्ज्यूमर गुड्स है वह सस्ता होना चाहिए।

जहां तक दवा का ताल्लुक है, दवा चूक जीवन के लिए उपयोगी है, जीवन को बचाने और राण देने वाली है इसलिए दवा की कीमत में भारी कमी होनी चाहिए। इसके लिए गवर्नमेंट को अनुदान, सब्सिडी देनी चाहिए जिससे कि गरीब आदमी को भी दवा उपलब्ध हो सके। इन सभी बातों को हम परिप्रेक्ष्य में देखें तो हम मानना होगा कि देश की आर्थिक प्रगति बहुत अच्छी है।

अन्त में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में जो कुछ स्थिरता आई है, जो आर्थिक प्रगति हुई है उसमें सबसे बड़ा योगदान, जो आपान स्थिति लागू की गई उसका रहा है। आपान कालीन स्थिति सदैव इस रूप में रहे या नहीं कि आपण स्वातन्त्र्य न हो, लोग बात न कर सकें लेकिन जो बड़े बड़े तत्कार थे, जो बड़े बड़े व्यापारी थे, टैक्स चोर थे उनके

[श्री बी० धार० सुक्ला]

खिलाफ कठिन से कठिन उपाय हथेला के लिए लगाने चाहिए। चाहे सबके लिए इमर्जेंसी खत्म हो जाये लेकिन इन बर्षों के लिए इमर्जेंसी के प्रावधान सदा के लिए लये रहें। अगर इस बर्ष को डर न होता तो आज यह चीज नहीं होती। यह लोग इस देश में इतना गड़बड़ करने, इतनी शराजकता फैलाते कि हम सफल नहीं हो सकते थे। इसलिए मैं गवर्नमेंट को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि उसने इनके खिलाफ इनने मेजमैं उठाये जिसके कारण इस देश की दशा बदल गई और आज चारों ओर उनके दिमाग में यह भय है कि अगर किसी किसम का असामाजिक कार्य करे तो गवर्नमेंट हमको छोड़ नहीं सकती है।

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget proposals. The Budget is framed in such a manner that I think it is the duty of everybody in this House to support it. One thing on which I feel inclined to congratulate the Finance Minister is that all the proposals in this Budget have got a specific purpose, an economic purpose with a view to the development of this country and acceleration of economic growth in this country. The Finance Minister has not submitted to, if I may say so, sadistic temptations to inflict penalties and burdens without an eye on the measure in which the proposals may benefit either the exchequer on the one hand and the measure in which it may or may not impede the economic growth on the other hand.

There are five purposes which I could discern from the proposals of this Budget. One is rationalisation of tax structure on the basis of principles spelt out by the Wanchoo Commission, namely that if the rates of taxation are such as will leave a margin for the tax payer to serve as an incentive for hard work and for the revelation of his income, then a

larger revenue on an overall basis can be collected. In this House on many an occasion we discussed this proposal of Wanchoo Commission and the mood of the House and the mood of the Government at that time was to reject those proposals on the ground that on previous occasions when it was tried, it was found that the tax-payer did not become honest merely by the reason of the reduction in the tax amount. I for one am happy that the Government have now found their way to appreciate the rationale behind the proposals made by the Wanchoo Commission. The rates now proposed are more or less on the levels suggested by the Wanchoo Commission. If they come down by about 10 per cent more, the rates would be the same as proposed by that Commission. The Minister has said that this reduction has been made as an experimental measure, in order to see how the tax-payer reacts; and if the tax-payer reacts honestly and if the overall revenue position is not affected by the reduction in the rates, this line may perhaps be pursued. It should be pursued, I mean, if things happen as expected. And one important thing which I could note is that, on the one side the Government have put forward the proposal for the Compulsory Deposit Scheme to continue not only for it to continue but for the rates to be raised, i.e. along with a lower rate of interest the rates will be raised, in order to ensure that resources are available with the Government for the purpose of ploughing into the developmental activities. This is a proposition which, if I could understand it, was put forward by the Wanchoo Commission. I congratulate the Government for taking care that the rates of interest are reduced on the one hand and the revenue—not exactly revenue, but resources—in the hands of the Government is not affected, on the other. They have adopted this even measure. This is a very sensible approach to the whole thing. Secondly, there is a

very noble proposal, for which I should congratulate the Government: I mean the investment incentives that the Government have given. This was also proposed by the Wanchoo Commission. The following are there, in terms of incentives. One is the proposal for investment allowance which, of course, is another version of what was in existence as the Initial Depreciation Allowance, earlier. With certain modifications, the principal accepted is that if a person puts in his money for investment, there will be an allowance for it. There was a rehabilitation allowance; but there was no guarantee that the money which was reserved in the name of rehabilitation, was ploughed back for real rehabilitation. The money was reserved and it became the property of the persons concerned. There was no monitoring agency to ensure that the concession given by the Government was made use of for conserving and saving money; and that it was used for the purpose of rehabilitation. They have now taken care to see that this investment allowance becomes available only if it is utilized for the purchase of new machines and plants. The specific purpose of ensuring the utilization of the Fund, is now taken care of. Another proposal is that the money should be deposited in the Industrial Development Bank of India; and that to the extent of the deposits so made, there would be a deduction in the surcharge. That is also a thing done purposefully, i.e. with an eye on the investment of the surplus money. There are two methods. One method which we have been pursuing so far, was to tax as much as we could and to get as much money as we could and thereby to create a damper on the productive activities. Our policy now seems to be and only to give more and more incentives, but also to see that the incentive was really utilized for the development of the country and that a Fund is created. In this connection, I would like to make a proposal to the Government, which

they may kindly consider. The Wanchoo Commission had made three proposals. The first was for the creation of a National Development Fund; the second was for the creation of a Reconstruction and Stabilization Reserve Fund. The non-corporate sector might make deposits into the former; and to the extent of the deposits so made, it would get concessional deductions in the matter of calculation of overall income, for the purpose of taxation. As far as the second Fund was concerned, the proposal was that the corporate sector might be allowed to deposit 10 per cent of the whole income into it and that it would be allowed to withdraw 50 per cent of that deposit; and when such a withdrawal was made, taxation would be imposed on it. The other 50 per cent might be blocked with the Government for the purpose of developmental activities.

The point I am emphasising, which I would request the Minister of State to take note of and bring to the attention of the Minister of Finance, is that the Government must very seriously consider the proposition of creating an investment fund, call it by any name, and give incentive to the tax-payer to put money in that and, to the extent of deposit in that fund, give deduction to the taxpayer. In that case, resources will be available for us, and if this can be fruitfully utilized, then the nation will not be the loser; resources will be available to the Government and incentive will be available to the tax-payer or the entrepreneur to do the work.

Let us not forget that there is such a thing as private sector. Let us not be carried away by the consideration that we are in a society where the entire thing is in the public sector. We are in a society where there is the public sector and the private sector. Public sector has to occupy

[Shri C. M. Stephen]

the commanding heights, but the private sector there is. And if there is the private sector, profit is certainly the motivation. Without profit motivation, there cannot be a private sector. So, if we agree to the existence of the private sector, let us not be oblivious to the fact that motivation there has to be, and that must be taken into account, and that is what the present budget has done.

The other aspect is house construction, which you have taken care of. This was also a matter which the Wanchoo Committee had made a specific note about. In the past, for construction of houses to the employees the only relief you have given is Rs. 10,000. It was very strongly recommended by the Wanchoo Committee that in the matter of additional constructions, when calculating wealth-tax some concession must be given to them. I am really glad that this principle has been accepted. Then again, for donations to the housing boards relief has been given. These are all proposals with a definite progressive angle.

Another very important thing for which I should compliment the Government is the incentive for higher production. This also the Wanchoo Committee had recommended. If there is production beyond a particular level, what is now proposed to be done is, to the extent of higher production a certain percentage in the matter of excise duty may be given. This principle is accepted as an experimental measure. Let us hope that this experimental measure will be endowed with success so that the logical steps could be taken hereafter.

Having said this, there is one matter on which I will have to strike a discordant note in a passionate way. You have proposed that the impounding must continue. I am unable to understand the rationale

behind it. I would even say that the proposal is absolutely immoral, and the argument is absolutely understandable. There are certain fundamental principles involved in this proposal. You have put forth impounding as a package deal; and that package deal consisted of three elements—(1) impounding of additional income, (2) ceiling on dividends, and (3) compulsory deposit. This is a total overall thing which you have proposed as an anti-inflationary measure. You have said whatever is given will be frozen as an anti-inflationary measure, because you did not want to allow it to go to the money market. You did it to curb the circulation of money. Now your anti-inflationary measures have succeeded and you are on the negative side. You have lifted the curb on dividends. Now the call is that more money have to be put into the market. Yet, contrary to the commitment, you say that you are going to impound the further income. If the cost of living has come down, there will be no need for you to impound money further. Therefore, I do not understand why exactly you are putting forth this proposal. It has been said that Government will, however abide by its earlier decision to repay in instalments the amounts already impounded and falling due in accordance with the existing scheme. So, whatever is impounded you are bound to repay, but you will continue to impound further moneys and put them into the provident fund. Why? If you want resources, there are two methods. One is taxation, direct and indirect, and the other is giving incentives. With respect to all the other sections you have given so many incentives, but with respect to the worker you are going to grab his money and put it in the provident fund. What is the return we get in the provident fund? Only 9 per cent for money which can get 12-1/2 per cent. I would like to have a clarification whether this money will continue to get interest at 12-1/2 per cent.

The principle of the provident fund is that there must be an equal contribution from the employer, but here the amount is going to be put into the provident fund without any corresponding contribution from the other side, and I will get it only when I retire. By what principle, I would like to know.

The worker is willing to contribute, but give him some incentive. That is why I have proposed that the present rate of contribution of 8-1/2 per cent may be raised to 10 per cent on a permanent basis, making the employer also pay correspondingly more, which will give you the entire money that you need. The worker will not grudge, no principle will be violated and no immorality will be committed. There will be no breach of faith or breach of trust. So, I raise my strong voice of protest against this breach of faith and break of trust committed towards the worker who is the only person in the country who is contributing substantially not only by his sweat but also by his hard-earned money to see that the progress of the country is sustained.

With these words I support the Budget, and I request that the Minister may bear in mind the criticism I have made and the proposal that I have put forth.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): I start complimenting straightway the Minister of Finance and his colleagues on a very technically perfect and economical competent budget. It is my misfortune that even when I am paying him a compliment, the hon. Minister is not in a mood to listen.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now-a-days compliments are at a discount.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: The hon. Deputy Minister who is here was present at our party meeting and is aware of the

points which I was able to make there. So, I will not repeat them here, but I would like to add something to the point which Mr. Stephen made.

The capitalist economy has taken labour as a commodity. So, when they buy labour, they pay a price which is called wages. Many years ago when I strayed into this unknown horizon of Economics, I wrote a thesis which is not a very relevant now, but it has not been accepted by a wise man like Mr. Bhattacharya. I understand my handicaps. But I have said, contradicting Alfred Marshall, that wage is the repayment of labour for the simple reason that a wage-earner first invests his labour and you only pay him at the end of the month or at the end of the week or even at the end of the day. Under the circumstances, if we have to take that, a wage earner and a labourer is a participant in all production processes. You have to treat him on a par with the person who invests his capital. The two are equal in a way; the two are not only equal but the wage-earner is more equal than the person who invests his capital. I am not going into Marxist ideology of my friend. Why I am saying this is that I am trying to reinforce the argument that you have impounded the workers' wages which were due to them by way of D.A. to the extent of about Rs. 700—800 crores. Instead of giving concession on taxes in the right way the hon. Minister has reduced the highest tax burden from 77 per cent to 66 per cent.—I hope it would not be repeated again.—whereby a person whose income is Rs. 3 lakhs, gets a concession of about Rs. 32,429. Last year, he paid Rs. 27,550. This year, he will pay Rs. 1,75,120, in case these Rs. 33,000 and odd were impounded. I am reading out the last paragraph which says as follows:

"This Budget takes into account the likely magnitude of the expenditure and resources insight.

[Shri B. V. Naik.]

The Central Budget for 1976-77 show a deficit of Rs. 388 crores at the existing level of taxation."

If, instead of giving this concession in the form of cash not realised, if you have collected it like you have collected D.A. and impounded it, if you have pondered over it—I have not done the calculations, because it would be labourious to go through all these things—you could have realised not less than Rs. 450.9 crores. According to the figures presented here in the explanatory memorandum to the Budget, you could have realised not more than Rs. 476 crores and your entire deficit would have been wiped out. This you have not done. Therefore, I say that it is technically a competent Budget, well framed, intelligent and clever. But you have not treated the two partners in the production game on an even keel. What is good for the good is good for the gander. You could have made it into a great Budget, Mr. Minister; you have made it into a good budget, a competent budget. But greatness needs cleverness mixed with honesty. It is missing only by an inch in becoming a great budget, so much for my sorrows along with the bouquet that I will be presenting to you (Interruptions).

The second question is in regard to something which is very vital to us. I wish the friends of our Opposition many of whom I hold in great esteem, instead of being merely critical should have been in a positive position to show alternative channels, alternative models of budgets than the one which has been prepared by the Ministry of Finance, which I consider, having generally seen, is one of the best Budgets till present year. But I do not know with all the debts that he has been incurring from the working people and others, what will happen to a Finance Minister who comes after two or three years. He will have to pay through his nose.

I do not share the view of our ex-Minister and friend, Prof. Sher Singh, that 20-point economic programme is an *ad hoc* programme, is off the mark, I need not repeat; I have got the 20 points with me. Out of these 20 points, leaving aside confiscation of smugglers' property under COFEPOSA and such other Acts which have been enacted, nearly 18 points are in the States sector. What do we see in regard to allocation. There has been an enhancement in the allocation for the Centre. According to the figures that have been given on p. 3 of the Plan Budget...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude now; 10 minutes only.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: I would draw upon the hon Chief Whip or the Deputy Chief Whip....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You tell that to your Chief Whip. Left to myself, I enjoy your sallies.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Out of 20 points, about 18 points are in the States sector. It is the States which have essentially to work on them. We have gone through the Fifth Plan document. We have been associated with the formulation of the Plan. About 18 points are in the States sector. But what is the budgetary support that have given to them? There has been an increase in the Central Plan budget from Rs. 3,154 crores to Rs. 4,090 crores, resulting in an increased outlay of Rs. 936 crores. But in the case of States, it has been increased from Rs. 1,054 crores to Rs. 1,412 crores, making an increase of Rs. 358 crores.

Now, you say that the States should raise their resources. But there are tremendous limitations for them. They have been dragging their feet into the agricultural wealth tax, taxing the agricultural income. Unless the State Governments are adequately supported financially, they cannot do

much. You do not need that much money for your Central Plan except for gigantic enterprises in the public sector, etc. I think, while you know there is an amount of difficulty in the administration of the State Governments which can be solved at the political level, on the economic side, you cannot starve the treasuries of the State Governments. Unless you adequately finance them, they will be starved of it and they will not be able to implement the 20-point economic programme.

With these words, I would compliment once again the Finance Minister and particularly the Ministry for its working

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER. I hope, Karnataka will appreciate that

SHRI P. ANTONY REDDI (Anantapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the Budget proposals and, I think, the Budget proposals are realistic. They have taken into consideration all types of people, the industrialists, the labour, the agriculturists and the common man. But still I would like to inform the Ministry about two problems that require better deal. In the near future, within a few months, there will not be in the country a person called landlord in view of the land reforms and probably every farmer will have to work on his own farm. He cannot even employ labour easily. Now, when it has come to this stage, do you think that we have given enough relief to the farmers? We must know that today 70 per cent of the population are agriculturists and, hereafter, it may be even more, when the excess land has been distributed to the landless persons. When such is the case, what will be the position of a normal agriculturists in future?

Now, the prices of many articles produced by the farmer have come down—foodgrains, vegetable, oil-seeds and what not. That means that

the ryot gets for his products much less than what he was getting last year.

And let us see the articles he has to buy. Two years ago, the price of fertilizers and pesticides was doubled. Now the budget gives some relief of Rs. 100 per ton i.e. ten paise per kg. So you think that this relief will really help the ryot? And that the future small farmer will be able to buy fertilizers at this rate? After the rising of fertilizers prices two years ago, the ryot stopped buying fertilizers and the fertilizer market is dumped with excess stocks. The wholesaler has filled his godowns with unsold stocks of fertilizers; so also the retailer. Even the normally well-to-do ryot could not buy fertilizers because his agricultural produce is not fetching profitable prices. Therefore, the Finance Minister should give deep thought to this aspect and study whether the relief given to the ryot, is enough in view of the fact that, hereafter there will be only small farmers and not the landlords.

Secondly, the articles he has to buy, other than fertilizers also, offer him no relief. For the steel that he requires, the price has gone up. The prices of pesticides have gone up and even the price of wood which he uses for his implements has gone up very high, while he has to sell his products at a much lower price. Even for electricity, they have increased the rate by leaps and bounds. So the agriculturists has to pay far more to buy things which he requires and he gets much less for the things he produces. Therefore, I suggest that the Finance Ministry should study the problem from this point of view and see that the agriculturist gets much more relief than what he is given now in order to make agriculture a profitable business.

The next problem is that even after so many years of independence the Finance Department appears to me to be ignorant of the colossal number of illiterates in the country. It is

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estimated that there are at least 350 million illiterates in the country. If you take the age group from 15 to 35 years, there are over 20 million illiterates, and the Finance Ministry have been allocating to the Education Department hardly ten crores in the Five Year Plans,—i.e., two crores per year—for educating 350 million illiterates. It works out, Sir, six raise per year to educate an adult. Do you think that this is in any way sufficient? Therefore, hereafter at least, our Finance Ministry should think deeply about this huge problem and see that, to educate the illiterates, they allot funds to the Education Department in such a way that in the course of the next five to ten years, illiteracy is eradicated from the country, as has been done by some of the developing countries like Burma, Argentina and other countries.

I once again draw the attention of the Finance Ministry to my two points. The relief they have given to the agriculturist is not at all a relief. They must see that when an agriculturist produces something, it is profitable to him. Otherwise, we don't know what will happen to the country because the agriculturists may not produce food-grains as that will not be profitable and he may take to other cultivation like fruit growing and so on where they can make some money. Then the food production in the country will be less and it will pose a problem to the Ministry.

Education is an asset for any country. Education is the very first thing required in order to develop the economy of a country. Therefore, in this regard also, they must allot much more funds for educating the illiterates that exist in the country.

SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI (Belgaum): Sir, I rise to support the Budget. I congratulate the Finance Minister for having presented a progressive

Budget in this House. Under the present circumstances, it is a good Budget. There is hardly anything for the Opposition to criticise the Budget. The Budget proposals are very well thought out. There are four salient features in this Budget: firstly, it has made provision for increased production, secondly, it has encouraged savings and investment, thirdly, it has given relief to the consumers, and fourthly, it has controlled the price line.

The Finance Minister has sought to stimulate production, both industrial as well as agricultural, by raising the Plan outlay by 31.9 per cent. This Plan outlay is fairly distributed not only in the priority sectors but also in the social activities. This Budget is a very good Budget. It is the outcome of the atmosphere that was created after the promulgation of Emergency and after the announcement of the 20-point Economic Programme by the Prime Minister.

As the House knows, before the declaration of Emergency, there was chaos in the country, there was no law and order, and everybody was frustrated over the political, economic and social scenes of this country. At that time the country's economy was subjected to stresses and strains and there were many lock-outs, lay-offs, strikes, etc., and as a result, production was not increasing. But after the declaration of Emergency, discipline has been brought in this country in all fields, political, social and economic, and as a result there is increased production in the country.

Coming to the 20-point Programme, this is a boon to the nation because this Programme is designed to meet the challenge on the price front as well as to provide house sites to those who do not have houses, to provide lands to the landless, to release the poor villagers agriculturists from the clutches of the money-lenders and to remove the bonded labour system. This Programme is being implemented

by all the states with speed and efficiency, and this has also brought about increased production in the country. Also, implementation of this Programme is the only way and the surest way to provide the basic necessities to the poorer sections of our society.

Coming to the production side, so far as agricultural production is concerned, the new year opens with a huge stock of foodgrains with a promise to remove the constraints on production and of price stability. This is mainly because of the fact that a better atmosphere has been created in the country after the promulgation of Emergency. It is not only investment that is necessary for increasing production; a sort of discipline and hard work is also necessary and that type of atmosphere was created after the Emergency. So far as agricultural production is concerned, the increased production is because of the fact that a huge amount has been invested in irrigation and power projects. So far as industrial production is concerned, there is a sort of discipline being maintained in the country now. Prior to Emergency, there was disorder; the relations between the industrialists and the employees were not good. The workers, after the Emergency, have responded to the call of the Prime Minister to maintain peace and as a result, the disputes that are arising are being settled amicably and a sort of discipline is being maintained. Moreover, the employees or the workers are given a chance to participate in the management also. As a result, the industrial relations are smoothened and there is an increased production, but one should not be complacent with the present rate of growth. Today, the population of the country is about sixty crores, but it is said that by the year 2000, it will be 93 crores. The present rate of growth is not keeping pace with the rate of growth of population. Hence it is necessary to adopt stringent measures to curb the population. For that, I have got some suggestions to make. So far as the age limit for marriage is concerned, it should be raised to 25 and 21 in the

case of male and female respectively. Secondly, one should not have more than one wife at a time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He will be a very bold man, who will do that.

SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI: If that cannot be done and even if one has more than one wife, at least there should be a limit on the production of children; they must limit to two or three children, otherwise our country will have to face greater danger in future.

AN HON. MEMBER: What would happen if the second wife also demanded three children?

SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI: I have no objection to have more than one wife, but the trouble is of the number children to be born.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Have more electricity in the villages.

SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI: Some hon. Members have referred to the price of agricultural produce. The same cry is heard in our State also. The cost of production has gone high, but the farmers are not getting a better price for their produce. Some steps should be taken to see that the agriculturists get a better price. The cost of inputs might be reduced considerably so as to encourage the agriculturists to grow more food, otherwise they will switch over to other commercial crops by which we will have to face shortage of foodgrains.

In this connection, I would also like to point out that there is no relationship between the raw materials and the finished goods so far as cotton and cloth are concerned. Even if the price of cotton goes down, the prices of cloth are not reduced.

With these words, I would like to support this budget.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI (Lakhimpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, if anybody takes into consideration the question of resource mobilization that is needed for development and growth and takes into consideration the incidence of taxes, he is bound to welcome this budget as the best budget presented in the last few years. This year's budget has many new features. The Finance Ministry has been trying to keep the prices, in general, at a constant level and to reduce the prices of essential goods. The Ministry has succeeded to some extent in this measure and it is reflected in the budget also. Inflation has been contained and prices have been reduced of the goods of mass consumption. This goes to the credit of the Ministry and I think, after the new budget, it will be more evident.

15 hrs.

As the Finance Minister has stated, his role is not the role of a taxgatherer only, he has to give concessions selectively, when and where it is felt necessary and needed. I think keeping this point in view, he has given concessions in respect of all the sectors. Corporate sector, the private sector and individual; also have been given some concessions so that there is more and more incentive for investment for growth. If there is no incentive for investment, we cannot expect growth. Therefore, it is the role of the Finance Minister and also the duty of the Minister to create an environment by giving incentives for investment. I think the Budget has provided this.

In this respect I do not agree with those who have argued that more and more concessions are being given to the private sector. As for the common man, he is concerned first with the price of goods. Secondly, he is concerned with the quality of the goods. He is not concerned at all whether it is produced in the private sector or the public sector. Therefore, taking

this point from the view of the common man, I would welcome the concessions given for production to the private sector also.

This year's budget reveals one more thing, that in all the budgets for the last 5-6 years, if we scrutinise, we will find that the quantum of yearly and additional indirect taxes amounted to about Rs. 300-400 crores. In the present budget it is only Rs. 50 crores. That is a new feature of the budget and with this amount the Minister is going to create a new environment for the implementation of the 20-point programme for the benefit of the poorer sections and the common man of the country.

The budget can be termed as a socially-oriented budget because I have seen in this budget more and more emphasis has been given for the development of science and technology. Even sports and culture have not been neglected. Therefore, by this measure, education, science and technology will develop. For the physical fitness of the younger generation the sports will cater to their need and more and more emphasis will be given for the cultural integration of the people of the country. I think this Budget will provide all these.

Again we need some intermediary goods which are produced in the basic core sector. That is steel, cement, etc. and there is no incidence of tax and some relief is also there. Therefore, we expect that with more and more production of these intermediary goods the requirements will go up. For instance, we need shelter, we need houses for millions of people of our country who have no shelter at present. It has been provided in the budget that there will be no wealth tax on additional construction which has a floor area of 80 sq. ft. Also in this context I would urge upon the Minister to look at the basic question of providing shelter to other people also, those who are not employed in any particular company or those who are not working

in any organized sector. A large number of population needs shelter. Some provision should be made for them so that they are given some monetary help in the form of loan or assistance for the construction of their houses.

It is a controversial question rather a disputed one whether more emphasis should be laid on production of foodgrains or strengthening of heavy industries. Both are equally important. When we aim at producing more to feed our people we should aim also to strengthen our basic and heavy industries so that India does not lag behind industrially too.

For the production of foodgrains and other crops irrigation facilities are needed. At present, some of the States in our country are not provided with irrigation facilities. Certain parts of our country have good irrigation facilities but some parts are miserably lagging behind. Therefore, the areas which are termed as backward States, backward regions or backward districts and where there is no such facility provision for irrigation should be made and more attention should be paid. More should be provided liberally for providing irrigation facilities there.

Now I come to the question of floods. Assam, Bihar and Bengal are subject to perennial flood. Flood control measures should be taken right earnest. In this context I urge upon the Finance Ministry to finance liberally the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission. The Central Government should have taken cent per cent financial responsibility in this regard. We have been told that a Bill was drafted for taking over the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission by the Central Government but due to want of finance and some other difficulties the Bill has not yet been introduced. So far as other measures are concerned, Irrigation Ministry will look after it. But so far as finance is concerned I urge upon the Finance Minister to be a bit more liberal.

I am glad that excise duty on tea in respect of Zone III has been reduced. But my point is why is this caste system being introduced? We are against caste and class system. In respect of tea there are five zones. Assam produces about 47 per cent of the total tea produced in our country and 75 per cent of that tea is exported. A major part of Assam falls in Zone V. I would request the Minister to consider the case of excise duty on tea relating to Zone V also.

Last year there was an increase in excise duty on tea by 10 paise and 15 paise. Where the incidence of excise duty is lower ten paise is added to that zone and where the incidence is a bit higher 15 paise is added. It is not rationalisation. I would urge upon the Minister to consider this point seriously and rationalise the excise duty on tea.

With these words I support the Budget.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrah)
Mr Deputy-Speaker at the outset I would like to extend my full support to the Budget presented by the hon Finance Minister before the House. With a short time at my disposal I would like to highlight some of the salient features which I consider most important for the economic development of the country as well as the rural upliftment of the poor people. Repeatedly many hon Members who have spoken in this House from this side of the House have expressed their views that perhaps this Budget is more popular one and also a socialist budget. I support what they said. The Budget presented by the hon Finance Minister is a socialist budget and it affords an opportunity for stimulating economic growth at this juncture of economic revival in our country especially after the promulgation of emergency and the announcement of the 20 point programme. The principal task of the Government's economic policy is to give a powerful fillip to economic growth, promote savings and

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investment, give tangible relief to the consumer and hold the price-line. The present budget provides enough scope for investment and to hold the price-line. The emphasis for mobilising resources for plan outlay has been shifted from taxation to savings, both compulsory and induced ones, and this is a new approach in our fiscal policy. It will not only facilitate the developmental activities in the country but it will give opportunity for the people to feel that they are also participating in the economic development of the country. Similarly deposit mobilisation, credit planning and the banking system will play a bigger role in the Finance Minister's new scheme of things. A little over 1/4th of the step up of Rs. 1700 crores in plan expenditure for next year, that is Rs. 480 crores, will be financed by borrowings from the impounded funds of wage-earners and tax payers in the Reserve Bank. It will facilitate to control the price-line as well as to give incentive to them for their savings. What is more, the hon. Minister has distributed the increased allocations judiciously not only in priority sectors as agriculture, irrigation and power but also over social services which have been starved of funds for the last two years due to paucity of resources. The higher level of public expenditure in a state of price stability will by itself do much to step up demand and thus lift the shadow of recession over hundreds of industrial units that produce items of common consumption.

Regarding concession to fertiliser, I hope that will facilitate the increased use of fertilisers by the farmers especially in the rural areas. By such increased use of fertilisers they will be able to increase food production.

Sir, I would like to point out one thing for the consideration of this House since my election to this august House. There are some States such as Bihar, Orissa and Assam which are suffering badly due to chronic drought.

and floods. In fact their resource position has been gradually going from bad to worse. If Government do not take expeditious action as to control the floods by taking up flood control projects to control the rivers, these States will be in a very difficult position to meet their own requirements. It is our experience that every year flood comes, drought also comes. There are droughts in some of the States. Every time advance is given generously to meet the demands of the States. The Sixth Finance Commission has recommended that they would be given their share against Plan advances to meet their requirements as a result of floods and droughts. These advances are made use of for this purpose. These states suffer a lot due to floods etc. And a time will come when they will have to depend entirely upon the Central Government to meet the expenditure.

I would request the hon. Minister that he should see that they take up such projects in Orissa which would be of help to the people of that State. For example, in Orissa, there is an irrigation project. The Central Government is considering the Bhim Kund Project. The Minister of Agriculture, our Chief Minister and the Prime Minister time and again visited these areas and have expressed their sympathy for these people who are suffering very much.

Of course, no measures have been taken to tame these rivers. At the end, I only request the hon. Minister to see that immediate measures to control these rivers are taken and to help this State so that their financial position is improved.

With these words, I support this Budget.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with the other friends who have paid compliments to

the hon. Finance Minister for presenting this budget, which we consider to be a very realistic budget. Those friends approached this problem purely from the doctrinaire point of view. They may be critical about this budget but, if we take the situation which is now prevailing in this country in its real terms, I think a much better budget than this is not possible.

Some criticisms have of course, been levelled against by my esteemed colleagues on this side of the House like Shri Stephen and Shri Naik and I shall try to meet those criticisms before I come to my points.

Sir, Shri Naik was saying that this budget has, in a sense, discriminated between the worker class and the capitalist class because whereas the amount that was due to the worker class have been impounded, no effort has been made to impound the additional benefit that is going to those persons who are earning a much higher income, whose income tax has been brought down from 77 per cent to 66 per cent. His argument is on a false hypothesis because, as the Finance Minister himself said the personal income tax has been brought down from 77 per cent to 66 per cent not only to give relief to those persons but the tax structure is also built up in such a way that the income-tax and wealth-tax combined sometimes go above 100 per cent. It has been lowered down to 66 per cent so that the tendency of the creation of black money is not there and it is this expectation of the Finance Minister that even after lowering the tax rate to 66 per cent the total amount which will go to the Central coffer will be the same as it is to-day even at the highest tax bracket. Therefore, the question of freezing certain amount does not arise because the moment you freeze that amount, well, the exercise will turn into futility because the tendency to go for black money will be there. Therefore, if we accept the hypothesis of the hon. Finance Minister and Mr. Naik has accepted it—I do not think any criticism can come.

Then Mr. Stephen argued that in this budget the Government has gone back on the promises made to the working class and the promise was that the dearness allowance which was frozen would be paid to the workers. I think the Government has not gone back. Government has decided that so far as the dearness allowance which was compulsorily deposited upto last year will be given back to the employees but so far as the dearness allowance which will be available to the wage earners in the years to come that will be utilised now for the development projects. The assurance of the Government was only upto the present budget year. No assurance was made by the Government for the coming year and, therefore, I do not think Government has gone back. In fact, I compliment the Finance Minister that not only the Government has not gone back on the promises made to the workers but it is for the first time probably that the working classes have been called upon to make capital contribution to the budget itself. Uptill now for the development of this country the contribution of the working classes was only through labour but we can take pride in the fact that for the first time a budget has come when the working class will not contribute to the progress of the country through labour alone but they will contribute to the progress of the country by their savings and this makes a change in the entire trend and to that extent I will say a budget which lays emphasis on the savings of common man to such an extent is an approach in the right direction.

I feel that some of the criticisms are not tenable. Of course, criticisms will be there if you try to approach the whole matter from doctrinaire point of view but in a country where we are trying to tackle inflation and are trying to have growth we cannot go by doctrinaire approaches. The fact remains that our country is a country which is at the moment

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami]

wedded to the philosophy of mixed economy. Well, if we can get out of it we will be happy but as it stands today the mixed economy is the philosophy which guides our economy. The fact remains that for the last four or five years there was hardly any growth or investment particularly in the private sector and, therefore, unless some budgetary provision is made by which the private sector can be induced to make certain amount of investment obviously the effect will be that while pursuing a doctrinaire policy only the working classes or the common man will suffer because if there is no investment and no growth it will lead to unemployment as it has happened in the last few years. Sir, unemployment is the greatest menace for this country and, as such, when the Finance Minister is to frame his budget proposals no doubt he has to keep the ideological considerations in view but he has also to keep in view the prime factor as to how we can mobilise more resources so that it can generate employment.

Unfortunately, this year in the entire discussion on the budget proposals—both here and elsewhere—one thing has been completely lacking and it seems we have made no exercise regarding it and that is: What will be the impact of the budget on the employment of this country? Uptill now nobody is discussing this aspect. I have tried to listen to the debates taking place on the radio and the press. Uptill now no assessment has been made about the impact of the budget on the employment and after all, I think, if this budget can have some impact on the employment potentialities that will be the greatest contributing factor to the development of this country and I have my own feeling that it will help to a certain extent—not to the extent which we expect—in increasing employment potentialities. The entire relief which the Finance Minister has given

to the private sector—undoubtedly with certain amount of grudge no doubt—he has given to it because in his considered view—I think, the House will accept it—it was necessary to generate employment potentialities of this country. The criticism has been made as to why in those sectors where durable consumer goods are today being utilised only by a handful section of this community the Finance Minister has given the relief. For example, why relief should be given to refrigerator industry or industry producing fans and so on and so forth but the fact also remains that these days in the industry there is lot of retrenchment and lay-off and there is no other avenue where these employees who have been retrenched or laid off can be gainfully employed.

Now unless some provision is made to really rehabilitate these persons either in that very industry or in some other alternative occupations, I think not only is the economy bound to collapse, but even the entire social system will undoubtedly come under great strain. Therefore, the Finance Minister had to give a certain amount of relief. But he has said very clearly and categorically that this has been done in order to give a breathing time to those industries to diversify their production, to change their style of production. I would appeal to the Finance Minister to see that this warning or advice of his to industry is heeded by them and some machinery is brought into existence by which Government can keep a tight control so that these industries may be diversified to that extent.

It, appears that my time is running short and therefore, will conclude by making only one point which my colleague, Shri Shastri, has already made, that is, regarding the tea excise. We have pointed out times without number that the excise duty which you are levying on this commodity in five zones is an absolutely

artificial differentiation which you have made without any rational basis. The Commerce Minister has categorically admitted so on the floor of the House and promise to look into this question and do something about it. Unfortunately, nothing has been done. I hope the hon. Finance Minister will look into this aspect. Since I have no time to go into other aspects, I will conclude by saying that in my view, the Budget reflects the basic philosophy of the twenty-point programme, the philosophy of growth, the philosophy of price stability and also the philosophy of given importance to the common man. That is why I welcome this Budget.

श्री मुल्की राय सेनी (बेहराइन) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बजट को सपोर्ट करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। जैसा कि इस बजट के बारे में कहा गया है, इसका उद्देश्य सामाजिक न्याय के माध्यम से आर्थिक विकास को प्राप्त करना है। इस बजट को अच्छा और कल्याणकारी कहा जा सकता है, मासिक कहा जा सकता है, लेकिन इसको समाजवादी नहीं कहा जा सकता है। कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने इसको समाजवादी कहा है। श्री मेरे साथी ने कहा है कि कुछ दिनों के बाद इस देश में कोई नैडलार्ड नहीं रहेगा। लेकिन आज स्थिति यह है कि इस देश में इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स हैं, बिग बिजिनेस हैं, बौद्धिक लोग हैं, अप्पर मिडल क्लास हैं, और उनके साथ ही बहुत ही गरीब वर्ग भी है। जब बजट के माध्यम से हम एक सोशलिस्ट इकॉनॉमी को और बढ़ सकेंगे, तभी हम उस बजट को एक सोशलिस्ट बजट कह सकेंगे।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He may continue on Monday.

We shall take up Private Members' business.

15.29 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SIXTIETH REPORT

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA (Uluberia): I beg to move the following:

"That this House do agree with the Sixtieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 17th March, 1976".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixtieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 17th March, 1976".

The motion was adopted.

15.30 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION—Contd

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We take up further consideration of the following Resolution moved by Shri K P Unnikrishnan on the 30th January, 1976—

"This House taking into consideration the experience of the working of the Constitution of India during the last twenty-five years and confronted with the tasks and challenges of social reconstruction, is of the opinion that significant changes are called for in the constitutional framework of the country. The House, therefore, urges the Government of India to initiate constitutional amendments particularly in the nature of property rights and to secure meaningful realisation of the principles enshrined in the Preamble and the Directive Principles of the State

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

Policy of the Constitution keeping intact the supremacy of Parliament, the federal structure and legitimate rights of the minorities, the Tribals, Harijans and other submerged sections of our population".

Shri Unnikrishnan may continue his speech.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Chattrapur): What is the time allotted for this?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Two hours. He has just started

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: We have to extend the time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I seem to have become heavy-tongued. People do not understand me. I said he has just started—I must do some tongue exercise.

SHRI K P UNNIKRIISHNAN (Badagara): When I formally moved this Resolution on January 30, I had begun with a remark from Justice Holmes which I shall repeat. Justice Holmes said that the life of the law has not been logic; it has been experience. However much some of the leading lawyers, legal luminaries of this country—I do not mean any disrespect to anyone might pretend constitution or law results from our social experience. It cannot transgress the laws of social experience or demands of social experience. And social experience, I would say, comes out of struggles, whether some would prefer to call them as class struggles or some may refer to them as tensions

15.32 hrs.

[SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI in the Chair]

I would say it comes out of struggles, of the relentless struggle that goes on in every society. Neither law, nor

constitutions which are dependent on the law making processes can claim exemption from the way social dynamics function or work. That is why K. C. Wheare has remarked "that a country's constitution is the resultant parallelogram of forces, political, economic and social. That is the sum total, whatever Palkhiwala may say. Constitutions and laws result from the inner relationship between this parallelogram of forces, political, economic and social. That is why I would say that forces change laws and constitutions, forces mould situations and constitutions follow! That is what history records; systems collapse and newer ones emerge because of the new correlation of forces in society

Our constitution can be no exception to this rule. The fact that it has 395 articles, 9 schedules or that it has had 39 amendments does not give our constitution any special significance more than what other constitutions can claim! We cannot say that this is something "transcendental" or something "immutable" or something above everything else which we cannot touch. I should like to invite the attention of this House to the views of some constitutional pundits and historians of constitutional developments of this country as well as in some other countries. They regard it as a refined version of Government of India Act of 1935. They forget that it was a social document which is only an expression of our social intent; it was only an expression or manifestation of the desires of the people of a particular generation; those who demanded our liberation from the imperialist yoke. It cannot claim any kind of permanence. It was made clear by Pandit Nehru who was not merely the captain of our freedom struggle but one who also guided the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly. That was made clear also by another architect of our constitution, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. It was also made clear by various other

luminaries of the constituent assembly. Still I say this without meaning any disrespect to those who adorn the benches of the High courts and the Supreme Court and for those whom it has become a profession, including the great luminaries of the courts, it is sometimes propounded with great vehemence from these benches that Constitution is "transcendental", "immutable" and something which cannot be touched. That has been our experience.

What are facts? How come that this constitution was made? We have to go into its ancestry; into the roots of those forces which moulded this constitution in 1947-50. Unfortunately many persons in this country as well as abroad think that what took place in 1947 was a "transfer of power"

What about the great liberation of this entire sub continent, particularly the territories which now comprise the Indian Union? For those persons it was mere transfer of power. But as you, Sir, would agree, it was not a mere transfer of power.

There is a basic hiatus between those two approaches. For some it merely signified transfer of power and for others it meant liberation. Similarly many persons claim that it was the 1919 Government of India Act or the 1935 Act to be more precise. They say it provides the framework of the Indian Constitution. It may be correct in the sense that similar phrases may occur in certain clauses. But the spirit of the Indian Constitution does not form part of the 1935 Act which was an Act of British Parliament. It comes out of the content of our own struggle for freedom. That is why the Indian National Congress was demanding a constituent assembly right from 1934; while reacting to the 1933 white paper and proposals the Congress declared that it shall be the duty of the British Government to provide for a

freely elected constituent assembly. This demand was repeated again in the Congress sessions because the Congress was the biggest national platform and National Liberation movement which led the struggle for independence in this country. The demand was repeated in the Congress session at Faizpur, Haripura and Tripura. The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, said:

"Swaraj would not be a gift of the British Parliament. It must spring from the wishes of the people of India expressed through their freely chosen representatives."

Jawaharlal Nehru, while moving the objectives resolution in the Constituent Assembly had said of our determination:

"The Congress has within its fold many groups widely differing in their view-points and ideologies. But it reflects the national sentiments and it is these sentiments which are reflected in our determination to have a Constitution for ourselves."

There are many constitutional pundits who find in the concept of the Indian Union shades of parallel in the Constitution of United States or provisions from the British-North America Act of 1862 or elsewhere. But the basic approach underlying our Constitution has been the approach of the people who struggled for independence, and the demand for unity. The basis of the demand for the Constituent Assembly was the growing self-confidence of the growing elite and a greater sense of unity manifested during the national struggle and weakening of the British imperialist foothold.

After all; what is a Constitution? It can only be a declaration of a social intent and an administrative blueprint. It cannot claim anything

[Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan]

more than that. It may be important that India had to work within certain limitations, when the Constituent Assembly met in 1946 because India had worked within a federal structure which pre-existed independence; i.e. the federal system of the 1935 Government of India Act. So, the institutional patterns which were already laid at the time of constitution-making, had certainly influenced the moulding of our Constitution towards the various objectives which came up during the assembly debates. But the basic question which the Constituent Assembly faced was, which road to Indian revolution? Shall we take the capitalist path of development or the socialist path? Shall we take the democratic path of development or shall we accept the non-democratic or undemocratic path? That was the crucial question.

The basic objective of the Constitution was not merely to codify certain principles but to conserve the goal of peaceful social change and national renaissance. The attempt was to create institutions that would initiate and permit social change—I would underline the words “permit social change”—and to create conditions for ensuring its success. It was an attempt to create a particular level of class equilibrium and to promote unity where, in the words of Jawaharlal Nehru, continuity and change can be ensured. Between 1920 and 1945, the quarter century that preceded the convening of our Constituent Assembly, both in the national movement and even in smaller groups whether of socialists or of people to the right or left or centre;—through them the people of this country had articulated the demand for a parliamentary constitutional pattern. The various resolutions that I referred to earlier, were only reflecting this demand of the Indian people. It was a reflection of the liberal democratic temperament of the progressive elite which led the Indian National Congress.

Again, I would say that socialism was very much in the minds of a substantial section of Members who participated in the deliberations of the Constituent Assembly. Granville Austin remarked that “the Constitution was dedicated to socialism.” Now it was not merely an Indian document, that my earlier remarks should not be misunderstood to mean that it was something uniquely an Indian document because we had never experimented with any other form of parliamentary system of Government. And to find historical parallels and situations in the history of preceding centuries while alluding reference to this Sabha or that Sabha, I think it would be doing a great injustice to the great architects of our Constitution. As B. N. Rao remarked: “It would be idle to pretend that the parliamentary system in all its modern details was organised in ancient India. But we may perhaps venture to say that the essential constitution was familiar”.

Now, Sir, we have reached a stage when I would contend, it is time for us to have a fresh look, to have a review of the Constitution because 26 years have elapsed since then, and a quarter century in a dynamic situation, and in the international context where the aspirations of the people as they have been given expression to by them through their social struggles, through the working of Indian democracy itself and the revolution of rising expectations with which we are confronted everyday, every year, and which have created a situation compelling us to have a new look at the Constitution.

Again a number of problems have cropped up. These are not problem of a technical or legal nature. While I do not claim to be a constitutional pundit except beyond the fact that I went to a law college—there are very many luminaries here, our Law Minister is here, Mr. Frank Anthony is here and there are many more, and I mean no disrespect to them when I

say that I do not think this is a business which can be left to lawyers alone! It was never the intention as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had remarked in the Constituent Assembly: "Half a dozen lawyers cannot sit together and frame a constitution". The constitution, I repeat, has the sanction of historical forces and social experience. So, it has a much wider scope. While we can have their assistance and their rich experience, the constitution is not a matter to be left to lawyers alone just as the constitution cannot be left to judiciary alone because it primarily concerns the lives and aspirations of the people of this country, the citizens of this great country. The constitution has only recorded what the people of this country have wanted. Right from the Preamble and over the 395 articles and all these amendments, I would say, is a reflection of some kind of interest or other. If that is so, I would say, the Parliament should be concerned in having a discussion in depth and that is why I have moved this resolution. Let us have a look at the unique experience that we have had in regard to the exercise, by the people, of adult franchise. There were many pundits who had questioned this. There were many leaders even within the Indian National Congress at that time—as history has recorded it—who had doubted whether we could go in for this experiment. There were many who had doubted whether adult franchise would succeed in India. But it was again a tribute to the leadership and far-reaching vision of Jawaharlal Nehru who insisted on having adult franchise in this country. Whatever we may say about the malpractices that have crept into the electoral system, this basic fact of adult franchise and the consequences that had followed—whether in the electoral system or in the pattern of representation—must be preserved, so that democracy can be preserved.

While we need not go into the fundamentals of this kind—which have

been debated and settled over a period of time—a number of questions like the Centre-State relationship, the inter-relationship between the Executive, Judiciary and Parliament, the question of Presidential powers, powers of Governors etc. have been thrown up during the last 25 years, apart from other basic questions, to which I shall refer later. I do not want to go into many of these things, because the time at my disposal is limited; I shall try to be as brief as possible.

The basic thing that we have faced, apart from these constitutional problems and hurdles, was the tasks and challenge of social re-construction, or the establishment of a socialistic pattern of society. It was very interesting to me, when I read sometime ago a very eminent author and journalist, James Camerou, who said that it was interesting to watch even the so-called right-wingers in India talking in terms of socialism! While many abroad would even abhor the word socialism and would have nothing to do with it, all parties and movements in India—except a small fraction which came up, viz the Swatantra Party, after the 17th Amendment of the Constitution—most of the time all parties swore by socialism. This is the most significant part of the social reality, because the people of this country, whatever some people might say, have accepted not merely a socialistic economic system but, I would contend, the socialist ideology. That is why I had quoted Granville Austin here and had said that even during the debates in the Constituent Assembly 25 years ago, the picture of socialism was very much in the minds of its leaders and Members; and it had cast its shadow or reflection however feeble on the various provisions.

The tasks and challenges of social reconstruction take us to the question of the structure of rights, the structure of Fundamental Rights and,

[Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan]

particularly, to the realm of property rights. As I have explained earlier, while the Preamble and the Directive Principles of State Policy reflect a deep concern, a deep social concern, they had to be given effect to; and muscle had to be put into them. And life had to be given to these declarations of intent contained in the Preamble and the Directive Principles. That is what, I would say, we have attempted to do under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru and Shri mati Indira Gandhi during the last 25 years, right through the successive Plans and right through the expression of our intent in governmental decisions on various occasions. I had remarked earlier how a section of our judiciary—I do not want to cast any reflection on anyone—had made some pronouncements through certain judgements—and you are aware how this House had to deal with the judicial pronouncements like those in the Golak Nath case. Also, a section of the legal luminaries had taken up the position that the Constitution was something which we could not touch and that the fundamental rights, as they stood in 1950, had to remain even if one century elapsed because they are something permanent and something fundamental, according to them. This is what Mr. Palkhiwala, in his book *Our Constitution—Defaced and Defiled*, says:

"We have failed to preserve the integrity of our Constitution against many hasty, ill-conceived changes, fruits of passion and ignorance. Our basic freedoms have been drastically eroded. Article 31(C) has dealt a nearly fatal blow on liberty and law. Unfortunately, its implications are understood by few, except specialists. Politicians have been able to get away with virtual destruction of our fundamental rights, simply because of the ignorance and apathy of our people."

This is what the great luminary has said!

The House should forgive him for the way he has treated the great people of this country. They are not so ignorant and apathetic that they cannot understand what goes on nor are they ignorant of the processes of change that has taken place. I can say with confidence that the people of this great country can understand the social dynamics of their own struggle. From morning till night, day after day, for 365 days in a year, they understand this much better than Mr. Palkhiwala. Of course, Mr. Palkhiwala is free to have his own views, but it reflects a particular thinking in this country which, unfortunately, should also be traced to the highest court in this country at a particular point of time. That is why Chief Justice Subba Rao said in his judgment in the Golak Nath case, that fundamental rights are "primordial transcendental and immutable." Both the Golak Nath case and the Bank Nationalisation case tried to unsettle the earlier decisions arrived at by the Supreme Court itself on a number of issues regarding the fundamental rights.

What did Justice Patanjali Shastri say in Shankari Prasad case? In that case he remarked:

"On the other hand, the terms of article 368 are perfectly general and empowers the Parliament to amend the Constitution without any exception whatsoever. Had it been intended to save the fundamental rights from the operation of that provision, it would have been perfectly easy to make that intention clear by adding proviso to that effect."

Again, in Sajjan Singh's case, Justice Gajendragadkar said:

"That is why we think that even on principle it would not be reasonable to proceed on the basis that the fundamental rights enshrined in Part III were intended to be final

and immutably settled and determined once and for all, and were beyond the reach of any future amendment."

Regarding this particular question, there is a very interesting remark by another Judge Justice P B Mukherjee of the Calcutta High Court. He said

"After all fundamental rights is a gift of the Constitution. What the Constitution has given, the Constitution can take away no doubt by constitutional means and no doubt by making constitutional provision for the same. This word 'fundamental' *ipso facto* does not mean constitutionally unalterable. A constitution which cannot be constitutionally amended is an invitation to revolution."

Again, I would quote another learned Judge Justice K K Mathew of Supreme Court who said

"Fundamental rights themselves have no fixed content. Most of them are mere empty vessels into which each generation must pour its content in the light of its own experience."

Despite the fact that there were many enlightened Judges who understood the spirit of the Constitution, we have had enough experience in a number of cases of the interpretation that has been put on various Acts of this Parliament and the various amendments which we have undertaken to the Constitution. So, now it is time for us to consider whether it can be left to the judiciary to interpret some of these basic questions because it has been very well established that it is very well within the rights of this House to determine this question and no other authority can change it except this House itself.

The question also arises how fundamental are some of these fundamental rights. While freedom of expression,

freedom of worship, freedom of religion and so on have certainly and undoubtedly been accepted as standard reference of civilised existence in all States, I cannot say the same thing about the right to property. Justice Hidayatulla himself remarked that he did not understand how the right of property had crept into the chapter on fundamental rights. He said

"It was an error to place the right of property in the list of fundamental rights and of all fundamental rights the right of property is the weakest."

If that is so if an eminent Judge has said so I cannot understand how some people elsewhere can still claim that something terrible will happen in this country if we remove it from the chapter on fundamental rights."

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru once remarked that originally property did not belong to any individual. So it can never be claimed that it is a transcendental right. But unfortunately in this country there are many people who claim it to be so. Dr Ambedkar however said

"Each generation is a distinct nation with a right to the will of the majority to bind themselves, but not to bind the succeeding generations."

MR CHAIRMAN My view is in your favour. This is a very important resolution but I think you would also like the maximum number of Members to participate in this discussion.

SHRI K P UNNIKRISHNAN When the question of zamindari abolition arose in the Constituent Assembly, Dr Ambedkar remarked

"Such a liberty is the liberty for landlords to increase rents, for capitalists to increase the hours of work and reduce the rates of wages."

[Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan]

"In other words, what is called liberty from the control of the State is another name of the dictatorship of the private employer"

[Quoted from the Framing of India's Constitution edited by B Shiva Rao—Vol II, P 114]

Even then, the members of the Constituent Assembly did not want it to be left to the judiciary

16 hrs.

Then, Shri Govind Vallabh Pant, while participating in the proceedings of the Constitution Advisory Committee said

"To allow the court to sit in judgment over the legislature or to control the legislature itself and to say that a law will not be valid unless it is declared so by a single individual sitting in the Supreme Court is extremely risky and I cannot subscribe to that proposition"

It was not a Communist or a Socialist who said this but it was Shri Govind Vallabh Pant

Now, with all the judicial constraints which I explained earlier and conditions and forces which now compel us to ask for a change it is necessary for Parliament to decide that the Constitution shall be given a fresh look and that a review of the Constitution in its various provisions shall be undertaken forthwith so that we can fulfil the pledge of the Constitution makers given in 1950

I would particularly ask the hon. Law Minister and the Government to look into articles 32, 141, 226 and 311. Since you are not permitting me to go into details I do not want to say much on that. I briefly refer to that question in passing.

In conclusion, I would say that it is not merely a question of ideology. It

is a compelling question. The Planning Commission in one of its reports of the Task Force has said:

"In a society in which the entire weight of civil and criminal laws, judicial pronouncements and precedents, administrative tradition and practice is thrown on the side of the existing social order based on the inviolability of private property, an isolated law aiming at the restructuring of power relations in the rural areas has hardly any chance of success."

All possible avenues of appeal and revision would be exhausted before a single step could be taken to implement it."

It has always been understood throughout the world that it rests on the State to determine the rules of accumulation, disposal and protection of property and India cannot be any exception. If we were not to fulfil our duty and our commitment, we will be failing in our duty to the succeeding generations.

Before I conclude I would like to read out a poem which is of some interest in this context. It is by a Harijan poet, Lalit Pant, poet Pawar of Maharashtra. He writes:

These Clenched fists won't
loosen now

Coming revolution Won't
wait for you

We have endured enough, no
more endurance now

The fire pit is ablaze
it is for tomorrow

Even if you take to your heels
now"

MR CHAIRMAN Resolution moved

"This House taking into consideration the experience of the working of the Constitution of India during the last twenty-five years and confronted with the tasks and challenges of social reconstruction is of the opinion that significant changes

are called for in the constitutional framework of the country. The House, therefore, urges the Government of India to initiate constitutional amendments particularly in the nature of property rights and to secure meaningful realisation of the principles enshrined in the Preamble and the Directive Principles of the State Policy of the Constitution keeping intact the Supremacy of Parliament, the federal structure and legitimate rights of the minorities, the Tribals, Harijans and other submerged sections of our population."

*SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram). Mr Chairman, Sir, our party, the CPI(M) is in favour of a radical change in the Constitution and I would like to initiate my speech by citing the views of my party on this issue. Our party feel that "the whole present Constitution should be radically altered. That can be done only when a People's Democratic State headed by the working class replaces the present bourgeois—landlord State headed by the big bourgeoisie." If this is done then only a true democracy can be established in the country which can take proper and just care of the toiling masses. The question that confronts us today is what type of changes we would like to introduce in the Constitution in the background of the present prevailing conditions in the country.

Mr Chairman, Sir you are aware of the provisions of the Preamble to the Constitution which says that there shall be justice, liberty and equality and under the Chapter devoted to fundamental rights the Constitution confers on the citizen of India right of peaceful assembly without arms, a right to move freely in the country, a right to settle in any part of the country, a right to speak and express freely and many such rights. The country is passing through double emergency. You are also aware of the fact that all the fundamental

rights stand suspended. Not only this, large number of arrests are being made and the people who are being arrested are not even being told to the high courts by the Government the grounds of their arrests and in this way people are being kept behind the bars and they are being denied justice. In these circumstances the first and foremost thing that we demand is the restoration of all the democratic rights as enshrined in the Preamble to the Constitution and other Chapters of Fundamental Rights and unless this is done we do not think that the Constitution can ever work for the benefit of the working class, the peasantry and the toiling masses and in the interest of 60 crores of people of our country. The second point that I would stress upon is about the right of the citizen in regard to property. Right to property has been included under the Chapter of Fundamental Rights. Even though some laws have been passed for land reforms and only very recently the urban land ceiling Act has been passed yet it is known to all of us here that the urban rich are still in possession of vast landed property both in the form of land and buildings by hoodwinking the law. Until and unless this concentration of land in the hands of the rich is broken and unless the land is taken from their hands and distributed to the toiling masses I do not think we would be able to achieve any real progress nor we will be able to give the benefits to the millions of the toiling masses that they deserve. While initiating the resolution Shri Unni Krishnan has already pointed out how there exist at present a relation of antagonism between the executive and the judiciary. He has also explained how the Supreme Court and the High Courts through their rulings are creating unnecessary interference in the implementation of the land reforms legislation all over the country and all such rulings have gone in favour of the landed bourgeoisie. I would like to recall that when the United Front Government was in power in

*The original speech was delivered in Bengali.

[Shri Krishna Chandra Halder]

West Bengal, they wanted to enforce the land reforms act and wanted to make the tillers of the soil the masters of the land. Unfortunately the efforts of the Government was frustrated and when the Calcutta High Court issued injunctions in favour of the big zamindars who were holding land beyond the ceiling limits and also those who were in possession of benami land. Pressed in difficult corner, the United Front Government and our party had given a call for peasants agitation and I feel proud to say even though there was court injunction the Government was able, with the cooperation of the people, to get hold of the excess land they were able to distribute no less than 7 lakhs acres to the share croppers, tillers and landless agricultural workers. I distinctly remember, Sir, and may hon. Members will also remember that in this House the ruling party had let loose a campaign of slander against the Government of West Bengal at that time for their pro-labour actions. It was being shouted from the house tops that the U.F. Govt. were not showing adequate respect to judiciary. Today, the whole spectrum has changed. Today we hear the Prime Minister often saying that the Opposition Government of West Bengal under the leadership of our party—the CPI(M) had done nothing to ameliorate the conditions of the poor peasantry. But I am sure that every right thinking person in the country will concede that it was the U.F. Govt. of West Bengal who was the first pace setter for land reform legislation and its implementation in this State and it was they who had highlighted the fact that but for this essential reform no real progress can be achieved in the country and thereby making the issue a National one. Today the Central Government seems to have woken up to the needs of introducing land reforms and to deal with the problems connected thereto but they feel shy today to acknowledge what was done by the U.F. Government in West Bengal. Even though they are say-

ing so many things about land reforms our party feel that they are really not interested in these matters and these are being used as slogans to baffle the people at large because unless we go into the roots of the problem we can not solve it and we also feel that right of property cannot be fundamental and as long it is there it will frustrate all efforts to make any headway in making any reforms in tenancy legislation. We also feel that he who owns the plough must be the owner of the land but we have to go a long way to achieve this. It is also our feeling that attaining this laudable objective cannot be possible unless we are able to arouse the people and enthuse the toiling masses, unless there is agitation and unless the prevailing social structure is changed lock stock and barrel. We also feel that to carry out these purposes, Article 19(f) and Article 31(1) should be amended and my party feels that these should be substituted by the following:

"(1) The right of citizens to their land holdings, handicrafts and small-scale industries, house, trade, profession or vocation, implements and other accessories necessary to carry on their trade, profession vocations within the limits prescribed by law, and the right of citizens in their incomes and savings from their work, and the income derived from the above-mentioned properties, articles of domestic economy and use and articles of personal use and convenience as well as the rights of citizens to inherit personal property shall be protected by law."

"(1A) All other property besides that specified in clause (i) of this article may be acquired by authority of law for public purposes or for securing justice, liberty and equality to all citizens, without paying any compensation or paying such amounts as may be fixed by such law or as may be determined according to the principles laid down in such law for pay-

ing such compensation. No such law shall be called in question by any court including the Supreme Court."

These are the changes that we want in the Constitution in the present situation in the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House to another matter of great importance. You are well aware of the fact and so are the members of this House that the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes entirely depend on land for their living. These two communities comprise the biggest sector of agricultural labour, sharecropper, and only a small percentage of them possess tiny pieces of land. In many parts of the country such as Bihar, UP, Tamilnadu, M.P. etc., these people are being deprived of the common human rights. They are not being given living wages, they are being evicted from the land and even their cultural rights are not being protected. I would therefore strongly urge to uphold the cause of these down trodden people and to ensure to them all the above rights that I have mentioned. If the Constitution comes in the way then let us amend the Constitution. We also feel that it should not be sole prerogative of the President to declare emergency where. We also feel that like the Constitution Amendment where a two-third majority is required for passing a Constitution Amendment Bill, declaration of emergency can in a similar way be passed only by Parliament when there arises a situation which affects the internal security of the country and this proposal should be passed by the 2/3 majority of the members as in the case of the Constitution Amendment. We also feel that the Governors should not be appointed and should be elected by the respective State Legislatures and the State Legislatures should have the right to

remove them through a majority vote. We also feel that it should not lie within the powers of President to dismiss a Minister. In fact this power should vest with the Council of Ministers. It is also our feeling Sir, that persons of 18 years of age and above should have a right to vote. There should be a proportional representation. Once again we find that the game of Aya Rams and Gaya Rams have started and to curb this evil tendency of defection there should be a provision to recall in our Constitution. There should be no occasion for the Central Government to dissolve a State Government as long as the party forming the Government enjoys majority in the legislature. We strongly deprecate the Central action of introducing President's Rule in Tamilnadu recently. Merely on the grounds of prevailing corruption or charges of corruption the legally constituted Government cannot be dislodged because such alterations are not uncommon to a Government formed by the Opposition Party but they are prevalent in equal measure in Governments that are formed by the Congress Party and among the Central Ministers. We should have one yard stick of measuring corruption in all States and the balance of justice cannot be tilted against an opposition ruled Governments only.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: May I submit that on an important issue like this you should permit some more time and I am seeking extension. On such an important issue a large number of members would like to take part.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will consider

SHRI M. C. DAGA (Pali): Every member would like to participate in the discussion. The time should be extended by two hours.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: I support it.

SHRI THAKIRUTTINAN (Sivaganja): As far as possible, please try to accommodate almost all the members.

सभापति महोदय अभी मुझ से पहले डिप्टी स्पेकर साहब ने कहा था कि इसका टाइम बढ़ाने के बारे में जरूर कन्सीडर किया जा सकता है, क्योंकि यह एक बहुत इन्वारटेंट रेजोल्यूशन है। इस वक्त इसके लिए दो घंटे एलाट हुए थे, साढ़े तीन बज में इस पर बहस शुरू हुई थी, यानी अभी भी 1 घंटा 8 मिनट बाकी है। जब इस का टाइम खत्म होने वाला हो, तब इस पर गौर किया जाय। लेकिन एक बात में जरूर कह देना चाहता हूँ— बहुत बड़ी मादाद में मेम्बरान इस बहस में पार्टिसिपेट करना चाहते हैं, यह एक अच्छी बात है। मैं मेम्बर साहबान में यह दरखास्त करता कि उन प्राइन्ट्स को रिपोर्ट न करें जो पेश किये जा चुके हैं, नये प्राइन्ट्स सामने लायें तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा, ताकि ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग इसमें पार्टिसिपेट कर सकें।

श्री भोगन्दा झा (जयनगर) : पार्टीज का टाइम बढ़ा दिया जाय, ताकि मेम्बरज कन्सीडर ओपीनिमन रख सकें।

सभापति महोदय : मेरे पास स्पिकर साहब की डायरेक्शन्स हैं, उसमें साफ लिखा है कि मूवर को आधा घंटा और दूसरे स्पिकर को 10 से 15 मिनट दिये जा

सकते हैं। जो पार्टी के रिजोल्यूटिव होंगे उन को मैं 15 मिनट दूंगा। इल्डर साहब को 15 मिनट दे रहा हूँ, 13 वें मिनट पर मैंने घंटी बजा दी थी।

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GO-SWAMI (Gauhati): This is a subject in which justice cannot be done within ten minutes. The time each member will get will be dependant upon the time of the debate. If you decide to conclude it to-day, the members will get less time. If it is extended, members will get more time. So, a decision may be taken now so that members may know what time they will be getting.

श्री भोगन्दा झा : कांफ्रेंस के बारे में यह भी बयान रखना होगा कि इसमें दो पार्टियाँ एक साथ शामिल हैं।

श्री मूल चन्द झावा : कांफ्रेंस में कोई दो पार्टियाँ नहीं हैं, कांफ्रेंस एक ही पार्टी है।

MR CHAIRMAN I will see that justice is done to the subject

***SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER** At present we find that all powers are concentrated in the Central Government and this is hampering in a great measure the Centre State relations. We feel that the subjects enumerated in the State List should be the concern of the State Governments and they along should legislate and there should not be any undue interference by the Central Govt in this sphere. If this is done then the States will have some autonomy. This will promote integrity and unity of the nation apart from ensuring a strong Govt. at the Centre. It is very necessary that the Constitution should be amended to make the country powerful and make the

people happy. It is necessary to amend the Constitution to provide that there should be a right to work for every citizen, that education upto higher secondary standard is made free, that all citizens are given free medical treatment, that the unemployed persons get unemployment allowance, that the old and infirm get suitable pension and that there is proper implementation of the law which provides equal pay for equal work both for men and women

This we cannot achieve unless we are able to liquidate the vested interests in the country. It is equally essential that all foreign money and the capital invested by the multinationals are nationalised. In a similar manner, monopoly capital should also be nationalised. Land should go to the tillers and all surplus land should be taken over by the Govt without any payment of compensation. These surplus lands should be distributed among the landless belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes, the toiling masses, the landless, the charcoopers, and unless we are able to make a determined bid to take the country to the above direction amendments of the Constitution will be of no avail. They will continue to be perfunctory and against the interests of the toiling millions of the country.

श्री सैयद अहमद खाण (बागमूना)

सदरे मोहनरम म हमकी लीगल बहान में नदी पड़ना चाहता क्यों कि वह बेकार है आप लोष जानते हैं। मबान यह है कि एक ग्राम आदमी जिसकी बदीनत में यहा हूं या जिसकी बदीनत हमे आत्रादी शामिल है, या जिसकी बदीनत हम आत्र आत्रादी की फिजा में माम ले रहे हैं, वह क्या कह रहा है। मैं वहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। वह आईन को पढ़ता

वह अदालत के फैसले को नहीं पढ़ता और न उस में जाना चाहता है। पा-खोवाला को उस बहान को बिल्कुल बेकार समझता है जिस के मुनाबिक रद्दीबदन की कोई गुंजायश नहीं है। मबान यह है वह यह चाहता है और कहता है कि आप वह काम कीजिये जिससे उसे राहत मिले। वह कहता है कि आप ने कहा था कि हम लोगों के मयारे जिन्दगी का ऊपर उठाना चाहते हैं। लेकिन वह आम इन्मान आत्र भी वही का वही है जहा आत्र से 27 साल पहले था। आप ने कह था कि बेकार का रोटी मिलेगी। लेकिन आत्र उस को दो वक्त भी खाना मुश्किल में नमीव होता है। वह यह कहता है कि आप कोई जिल बनान है ता अदालत आप का काम राखती है। जब आप बैको को नेशनलाइज करने हैं ता आप के हाथ राके जाने हैं, और आप का यह कहना जाना है कि जा आईन बना था वह इने बड़े अकनमन्द लाग। ने बताया था इन्लिए उसमें रद्दीबदन नहीं हा मरनी। वह यह कहता है कि जा अन्नाह का क्लाम है वह भी बदल गया 10 तमण्डमेंट्म भी वक्त की रफ्तार के मुनाबिक बदल गये न्यू टेस्टमेंट आया, फिर कुगल आया खदान भी अपना फरमान वक्त की जरूरत के मुनाबिक दिया। वे कहते है कि आपका आईन क्यों नहीं बदलता है। हमसे क्या बात है और यह क्या बहान है। यह प्रोपर्टी का क्या मबान है, यह क्या बहान है? मैं एक तीन फीट की झोपडी में रहता

[श्री सैयद अहमद शाणा]

हूँ और मेरे पास ही ओबराय का 35 मजिला ओबराय-बोरीटन होटल है। उसका दो मजिला से 35 मजिला कैसे हो गया और मेरे पास जो एक ओपडी थी, वह नीचे चली जा रही है और वह ऊपर चला जा रहा है। यह इतना बड़ा फर्क है। आप ने कहा था कि हम फर्क मिटाएंगे और इक्वलिटी लाएंगे। वह कहता है कि यह फर्क क्यों है और इसको मिटाने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं। वह कहता है कि मैंने आप को बोट दिया है और आप इस एवान में आए हैं। तो इस एवान में क्या हो रहा है। इसका मुझे जवाब मिलना चाहिए। यह जो बड़ी बड़ी वहीमें होनी है यह लीगल ल्यूमनरीज की बात है और वह अलग बात है। सवाल यह है कि जिस वकन आप ने आईन बनाया था, उसमें उस समय आप ने यह रखा था कि हम बेहतर समाज बनाएंगे लेकिन बेहतर समाज बनाने के लिए हम ने कदम उठाए या नहीं उठाए। वह यह जानना चाहना है। वह कहना है कि आप पहले कहते थे कि एकमप्लायमेंशन नहीं होगा लेकिन आज भी एकमप्लायमेंशन हो रहा है। वह एकमप्लायमेंशन क्यों नहीं बन्द हुआ। वह कहना है कि आप ने कहा था कि जो सरकार होगी वह कोशिश करेगी कि वेलफेयर स्टेट हो और समाजवाद लाया जाएगा लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ है। जिस वकन मैं आईन को देखना हूँ और गौर से देखना हूँ तो मैं यह पाता हूँ कि डाइरेक्टिव प्रिंसिपल्स से

यह लिखा है "दि स्टेट शॉल स्ट्राइव"। जो करना है वह तय नहीं है बल्कि यह लिखा है कि कोशिश की जाएगी। वह कोशिश नहीं हो रही है। क्यों नहीं हो रही है? सवाल यह है कि एक तरफ तो आप धनशक्तियों को प्रोपर्टी राइट्स को महफूज रखने के लिए बेतहाशा अभियार देने हैं और दूसरी तरफ आप डाइरेक्टिव प्रिंसिपल्स में यह कहते हैं कि कि "कोशिश करेंगे"। यह कोशिश का सवाल नहीं है। आईन इन लिए बना था कि सब को इक्विबलिटी ऑफ ऑपॉर्चुनिटीज मिले, आईन इसलिए बना था कि हम समाजवाद लाए। सवाल यह है कि पालकीवाला को जो बहम है वह बहम उन लोगों के लिए बेकार सी है और लोग उसको नहीं सुनना चाहते हैं। उसको अलग रख कर हमें और चीजों को सोचना चाहिए। वह क्या बहस करने है वह अलग बात है। वे एक लफ्ज के बेअन्दाज मादन लगाने हैं और उस इन्टर-प्रिटेन में आगे चलना चाहते हैं जो कोर्ट में होता है। जो लोग ल्यूमनरीज हैं, वह हर चीज का इसी तरह से करना चाहते हैं पालकीवाला ने एक किताब लिखी है। वह आपने भी पढ़ी होगी और मैंने भी पढ़ी है।

"The State shall direct its policy towards securing adequate means of livelihood"

अब फिर वही बात आ जाती है। उस में लिखा है "लैव डाइरेक्ट" अगर हममें यह कहीं नहीं लिखा है "शुद्ध लैव हूँ"। प्रोपर्टी को महफूज रखने के लिए यह सब किया गया है क्योंकि उस समय

जो लोग थे, जोकि हमारे वर्ज्य थे और जिन के लिए हमारे दिल में बड़ा एहतराम है, उनमें से बहुत से उस क्लास को विलाप करते थे जो शायद प्रोपर्टी रखे थे और प्रोपर्टी को महफूज रखना चाहते थे। मबाल यह है कि आज वह जमाना नहीं है। आज हम भागे जाना चाहते हैं और गरीबी को दूर करना चाहते हैं। इसलिए हमारी एप्रोच भी भ्रमलन होनी चाहिए और जो एप्रोच डाइरेक्टिव प्रिंसिपल की है, वैसी एप्रोच नहीं होनी चाहिए मबाल यह है कि हमारा एकोनोमिक सिस्टम ऐसा होना चाहिए और उसको हमें ऐसा इबोल्व करना चाहिए जिसके तहत हम नाबराबरी को दूर करें। अगर वह नहीं करते हैं तो यह जा बहस है, इसमें क्या हो सकता है, यह सब बेकार हो जाती है। हमें मागी एप्रोच बदलनी है और उस एप्रोच को बदलने के लिए हमारी थिंकिंग फिर वापस जानी चाहिए उस तरफ जब हमने आईन बनाया था। जो आईन थे उनको हम नहीं ला सके और ऐसी क्या वजह थी जिसमें हम आईन को भ्रमली जामा नहीं पहना सके, जैसा हम चाहते थे उस ढंग से नहीं कर सके, इन सब बातों को हमें देखना चाहिए।

मैं इस करारदाद की जो श्री उनीकुण्णन साहब ने आपके सामने रखी है तारीफ करता हूँ और समझता हूँ कि हमें प्रोपर्टी के राइट को जिस को प्रोटेक्शन मिला हुआ है, यह नहीं मिलना चाहिए, बिल्कुल नहीं मिलना चाहिए। इसके साथ साथ मैं यह

भी चाहता हूँ कि नाबराबरी को दूर किया जाए। दोनों चीजें साथ साथ जानी चाहिए। जो वादे हमने किए थे वे पूरे होने चाहिये।

उठो मेरी दुनिया के गरीबों को
 जगा दो

काखाए उमरा के दरो दीवार हिला
 दो।

फिर तो जो छोटा सा मकान है अगर वह गिर गया और जो बड़ा मकान है वह और बड़ा हो गया, तो इसको कोई बरदाश्त नहीं करेगा। जो आज तक होता आया है उसका हमें जवाब देना है। गरीब का कहना यह है कि उसकी गरीबी पिछले पच्चीस बरस में क्यों दूर नहीं हुई? कौन सी रुकावटें थी जो रास्ते में आईं? उनको हम को दूर करना चाहिए। गरीब अगर गरीबी दूर करने के लिए कहता है तो यह उसका हक है। उसकी गरीबी को दूर करना हमारा फर्ज भी है। उसको उसका हक मिलना चाहिए। इसलिए, उसने आजादी की जो जंग लड़ी और हम आज यहां विराजमान हैं। इनका ही मुझे फर्ज करना है।

[شری سید احمد آغا (ہاراولا):]

مہر ہے - میں اسکی لیکل
 بحث میں نہیں ہونا چاہتا
 ہوں کیونکہ وہ بے کار ہے - سوال
 یہ ہے کہ ایک نام آدمی جس کی
 بدولت میں یہاں ہوں یا جس کی
 بدولت میں اُڑاسی حامل ہے یا
 جسکی بدولت ہم آج اُڑاسی کی فضا

[شری سعود احمد آغا]

میں سانس لے رہے ہوں۔ وہ
کہا کہہ رہا ہے۔ میں وہی کہتا
چاہتا ہوں۔ وہ انہیں کو نہیں پڑھتا۔
اور نہ اس میں جاتا چاہتا ہے وہ
پالکی والا کی اس بحث کو بالکل
بے کار سمجھتا ہے جسکے مطابق وہ
بدل کی کوئی گنجائش نہیں ہے۔
وہ یہ چاہتا ہے اور کہتا
ہے کہ آپ وہ کام کھائے جس
سے اس کو راحت ملے۔ وہ کہتا ہے کہ
آپ نے کہا تھا۔ کہ ہم لیگ کے
ممبران زندگی کو لوہر اٹھانا چاہتے
ہیں۔ لیکن وہ عام انسان آج بھی
وہوں کا وہوں ہے جہاں آج سے ۲۷
سال پہلے تھا۔ آپ نے کہا تھا کہ
بے کار کو روٹی ملے گی۔ لیکن آج
اسکو دو وقت کا کھانا ممکن ہے
نصیب ہوتا ہے۔ وہ یہ کہتا ہے کہ
آپ کوئی بل دیتے ہیں تو عدالت
ایک آم روکتی ہے۔ جب آپ لیگ
کو نیشنلائز کرتے ہیں تو آپکے
دوڑے جاتے ہیں۔ اور آپکو یہ کہا جاتا
ہے کہ جو آئین بنا تھا وہ بڑے
عتساف لیگ نے بنایا تھا لیکن آج
اس میں وہ بدل نہیں ہو سکتا
وہ یہ کہتا ہے کہ جو اللہ کا کلام ہے
وہ بھی بدل گیا۔ دس کمانڈمنٹس
بھی وقت کی رفتار کے مطابق بدل گئے
ہیں۔ وہ کہتے ہیں سوشلسٹ مینٹ
آیا یہ قرآن آیا آپ کا آئین گھڑا لیکن

بدلتا ہے۔ اس میں کیا بات ہے۔ اور یہ
کہا بحث ہے۔ یہ پراپرٹی کا کیا سوال
ہے۔ یہ کہا بحث ہے۔ میں ایک
تین نصف کی جہیزوں میں رہتا
ہوں۔ اور میرے پاس ہی اوپر کے کا
35 ملز سوچا ہوٹل ہے۔
اس کا دو ملز سے 35 ملز کہے ہو
کہا۔ اور میرے پاس جو ایک جہیزوں
تھی وہ نچے چلی جا رہی ہے۔ اور
وہ لوہر چلا جا رہا ہے۔ یہ اتنا ہوا
فرق کہوں ہے۔ آپ کہا تھا کہ ہم فرق
سٹائمنٹ۔ اور ایک ویلٹی لائن کے۔ وہ
کہتا ہے کہ یہ فرق کہوں ہے اور اس
کو مٹانے کے لئے آپ کہا کر رہے ہیں۔
وہ کہتا ہے کہ میں نے آپکو روٹ دیا
ہے۔ اور آپ اس ایوان میں آئے ہیں۔
تو اس ایوان میں کہا ہو رہا ہے ؟
مجھے جواب ملنا چاہئے۔ یہ
جو دبی دبی بحثیں ہوتی ہیں وہ
لیگل اور ممبرز کی بات ہے اور وہ
ایک بات ہے۔ سوال یہ ہے کہ جس
وقت تم نے آئین بنایا تھا اس میں
اس سے آپ نے وہ رکھا تھا کہ ہم
ہوئے سماج بدلتوں گے۔ لیکن بہتر
سماج بنانے کے لئے نئے قدم اٹھائے
یا نہیں اٹھائے۔ وہ یہ جانتا چاہتے
ہیں۔ وہ کہتا ہے کہ آپ پہلے کہتے
تھے۔ کہ ایکسپانڈیشن نہیں ہوگا۔
لیکن آج بھی ایکسپانڈیشن ہو رہا
ہے۔ وہ ایکسپانڈیشن کہوں نہیں بلکہ
ہوا۔ وہ کہتا ہے کہ آج کہا تھا

کہ جو سرکار ہوگی وہ کوشش کریگی
کہ ویلفیئر سٹیٹ ہو۔ اور سماجواں ایسا
چاہتے ہیں لیکن ایسا نہیں ہوا ہے
جس وقت میں انہیں کو دیکھتا ہوں۔
اور فور سے دیکھتا ہوں تو میں یہ
پتا ہوں کہ ڈائریکٹو پرنسپل میں
یہ لکھا ہے۔ دوسری بات شمل سٹرائیو
(strive) جو کارن ہے وہ طے نہیں ہے۔
بلکہ یہ لکھا ہے کہ کوشش کی
چائیگی۔ وہ کوشش نہیں ہو رہی ہے۔
کہوں نہیں ہو رہی ہے؟ سوال یہ ہے کہ
ایک طرف تو آپ عدالتوں کو پراپرٹی
وائٹس کو محفوظ رکھنے کے لئے
اختیار دیتے ہیں اور دوسری طرف
آپ ڈائریکٹو پرنسپل میں یہ کہتے
ہوں کہ کوشش کریں گے کہ کوشش کا
سوال نہیں ہے۔ انہیں اس لئے بنا
تھا کہ ایک ہی آف ایور چھوڑتی ملے۔
انہیں اس لئے بنا تھا کہ ہم سماج واد
لٹوں۔ سوال یہ ہے کہ پانکی
والا کی جو بحث ہے وہ بحث
اُن لوگوں کے لئے ہے گا۔ سی ہے
اور لوگ اسکو نہیں سہا چاہتے ہیں۔
اسکو الگ رکھ کر ہمیں اور چھوڑ
کو۔ سوچنا چاہئے۔ وہ کہا بحث کرتے
ہیں۔ وہ الگ بات ہے۔ وہ ایک لفظ
کے بے انداز۔ علی لکاتے ہیں۔ اور اس
انٹریپرٹیشن سے آگے بھی چلنا چاہتے
ہیں۔ جو کورٹس میں ہوتا ہے جو
لیگل لیو ممبرز میں وہ ہر چیز کو
اسی طرح کرنا چاہتے ہیں۔ اس کے

بارے میں ایک آرٹیکل بھی لکھا گیا
تھا۔ وہ شاید آپ نے پڑھا ہوگا۔ اب
سوال یہ ہے کہ ہم نے پھر اس
انہیں میں یہ لکھا ہے

"The State shall direct its policy
towards securing adequate means of
livelihood."

اب تک پھر وہی بات آ جاتی ہے۔ اس
میں لکھا ہے وہ شمل ڈائریکٹ ہے مگر
اسمیں یہ کہیں نہیں لکھا ہے وہ بات شمل
قو ہے پراپرٹی کو محفوظ رکھنے کے لئے
یہ سب کیا گیا ہے۔ کیونکہ اس سے
جو لوگ تھے جو کہ ہمارے بزرگ
تھے اور جنکے لئے ہمارے دل میں
بڑا احترام ہے ان میں سے بہت سے
اس کلاس کو پانگ کرتے جو شاید
پراپرٹی رکھتے تھے۔ اور پراپرٹی کو محفوظ
رکھنا چاہتے تھے۔ سوال ہے کہ آج وہ
زمانہ نہیں ہے۔ آج ہم لوگ جاننا
چاہتے ہیں۔ اور غریبوں کو دور کرنا
چاہتے ہیں۔ اسلئے ہماری اپروچ بھی
علا ہونی چاہئے۔ اور جو اپروچ
ڈائریکٹو پرنسپل کا ہے ویسی اپروچ
ہونی چاہئے۔ سوال یہ ہے کہ
ہمارا ایکٹو سسٹم ایسا ہوا چاہئے
اور اسکو ہمیں اپلو کرنا چاہئے
جس کے تحت ہم نابرابری کو دور
کریں۔ اگر وہ نہیں کرتے ہیں تو یہ
جو بحث ہے اس میں کیا ہو سکتا ہے۔
یہ سب بے کار ہو جاتی ہے۔ ہمیں
ساری اپروچ بدلی ہے اور اس اپروچ
کو بدلنے کے لئے ہماری تھکانگ پھر

[شری سچند احمد آغا]

وایس آئی چاہئے۔ اس طرف جب ہم نے آئین بدلایا تھا۔ جو آدرش تھے انکو ہم نہیں لے سکے اور ایسی کہاوت تھی جس سے ہم آئین کو صلی جامہ نہ دے سکتے۔ چوسا ہم چاہتے تھے۔ اس تھلک سے نہیں کر سکے۔ ان سب باتوں کو ہمیں دیکھنا چاہئے۔

میں اس قرارداد کی جو شری لونی کرشنن صاحب نے آپکے سامنے رکھی ہے نایاب کرتا ہوں اور سمجھتا ہوں کہ ہم پراپرٹی کے رائٹس کو جس کو پروٹکشن مای ہوئی ہے یہ نہیں ملای چاہئے۔ بالکل نہیں مای چاہئے۔ اس کے ساتھ ساتھ میں یہ بھی کہتا ہوں کہ نااہلی کو دور کیا جائے۔ دونوں چیزیں ساتھ ساتھ جاتی چاہئیں۔ جو وعدہ ہم نے کئے تھے وہ پورے ہونے چاہئیں۔

انہو مای ذمہ کے شرمیلوں کو دیکھا دو کچھ و امرا کے دور دیوار کا دور۔ پور تو جو چھوٹا سا مکن اگر وہ گر گیا اور جو بڑا مکن ہے وہ اور بڑا ہو گیا اسکو کوئی برداشت نہیں کریگا۔ جو آج تک ہوتا آیا ہے اسکا ہمیں جواب دینا ہے۔ فریب کا کہنا یہ ہے کہ اُسکی فریبی پچھلے پچھس برسوں میں کبھی دور نہیں ہوئی؟ کون سی روگاہیں تھیں جو راستے میں آئیں۔ لیکن کو ہم کو دور کرنا چاہئے۔

فریب اگر فریبی دور کرنے کے لئے کہتا ہے تو پھر یہ اس کا حق ہے۔ اس کی فریبی کو دور کرنا ہمارا فرض بھی ہے۔ اس کو اس کا حق ملنا چاہئے۔ اس لئے اس نے آزادی کی جاگ لڑی اور ہم آج یہاں برآمدان ہری۔ اتنا ہی مجھے عرض کرنا ہے۔ [

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Jainagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very happy indeed that my hon. friend, Shri Unnikrishnan has moved this Resolution. I am particularly happy because this Resolution has been moved by a Member from the Congress Bench. We would like to state here that if the Congress Party do not support this, no constitutional amendment is possible.

Last Friday, 3 out of 8 speakers who spoke from the Congress Benches totally and fanatically supported the property right as a fundamental right. In that background, I am particularly happy that this Resolution has been moved by a Congress Member. I am not going to blame our Constitution. At the time when the Constitution was framed, the conditions prevailing then were entirely different; the country had been partitioned, millions had been uprooted from their homes and we had attained Independence just then and, therefore, we maintained the basic structure. In that background we gave unto ourselves the Constitution drafted by the Constituent Assembly which had not been elected on the basis of The adult franchise. That was the position at that time.

Now, after the experience that we have gained, we know how our Constitution has been amended so many times: many more amendments are still pending. I think our Constitution has to be given a thorough look

afresh and some basic changes are to be made by Parliament for that purpose. (Interruptions). In that background, I am speaking. There are vested interests; monopoly houses; ex-princes and big landlords whose spokesmen in the judiciary say that our Constitution cannot be amended. Some of my friends who call themselves as leftists also see the point; I am not blaming anyone here. I hope each one of you will support this measure.

In such a situation, I want to remind this House that we should not go by the judgment given in the case of Shri Keshavanand Bharti. In that case, the Supreme Court had given its verdict that the basic structure of our Constitution should not be touched. I want to tell you here that the words 'basic structure' have not yet been defined. I wish to state here that we should uphold the sovereignty of Parliament; the Parliamentary system is the basic structure. We should go to nothing beyond that. Nothing beyond that, that is, the Parliament elected on the basis of adult franchise is sovereign and this is the basic structure of our democratic structure and anything else should be and 'can be' altered or amended by this Parliament. Even the case of Keshvanand Bharti must not be accepted and in regard to Article 368 of the Constitution—if that is to be clarified—that should be clarified although there is no need for it.

The sovereignty of Parliament need to be emphasised and has been emphasised in the Resolution because there is loud talk going on for Presidential form of Government being more suitable to India. We know, Sir, in the case of the biggest presidential form of Government, namely, U.S.A. how the President who was elected by the largest margin of votes had to go. He proved to be one of the most corrupt Presidents and in that very big and powerful

country we have an unelected President at the helm of affairs. Among the capitalist countries and capitalist democracies ours is not the least democratic country but I would say it is the most democratic system. At the moment I am only talking of capitalist democracies vis-à-vis our democracy.

The sovereignty of Parliament, the federal structure of our country, the autonomy to the States and protection to the minorities—because ours is a multi-lingual and multi-religious country and separate identities and interests have to be safeguarded—these must form the basic structure of our Constitution. But, Sir, attempts are being made to confuse the issue. At the time when the Constitution was framed and since then it has been taught to us in the institutions also that there are three pillars of our democracy—judiciary, executive and legislative.

For several years in the past now our judiciary has come into contact with the people and people feel that judiciary is on the side of wealth and not on the side of people; that the judiciary is siding with the vested interests and, I do not think, we should permit our judiciary to be equated or to be bracketed along with the vested interests of our country. So, in that context some drastic changes have to be made with regard to the composition of the judiciary, its manner and method of functioning also so that its prestige and dignity are maintained in the interest of our democracy itself. In that context I would like to point out that at present the judges are nominated by the President in consultation with the Prime Minister and the State Governors as far as the High Court judges are concerned. I think it is very undemocratic. I suggest that Government should take into consideration whether it would be possible that Parliament prepares

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a panel of judges and from that panel alone. . .

SHRI M. C. DAGA (Pali): Will the Members of Parliament decide the whole thing;

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA Please do not interrupt. I know you are speaking on behalf of money. Under our Constitution, justice is on sale in the courts. You pay the highest fee and you will get the senior-most barrister. Here you turn white into black. 2 (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN Mr. Daga your name is here.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA Law is on sale, legal talent is on sale. The biggest moneybags can get it. The honest peasant cannot. This is the stark reality, the fatal reality. It must be remedied.

In such a situation, I think respect for the judiciary should be maintained and it shall be enhanced if the Judges are not allowed to interfere into matters of fundamental right to the smugglers, to the blackmarketers, to the hoarders and to fascists who want to do away with democracy. (Interruptions) In such a situation, I think the Supreme Court Judges' panel should be prepared by Parliament, because after all, we represent the people. If we are bad, the people will throw us out. The Judges' panel should be prepared by Parliament. Similarly, the High Court Judges' panel should be prepared by the State legislatures and only from amongst them they should be nominated. (Interruptions) Members who do not like what I say could either keep mum or keep out. If they have to ask me anything, they can but if they are turning it into a market, it should not be allowed.

In such a situation, I think the composition of the judiciary will be

changed, because of the democratic urges of the people. There is no dearth of eminent lawyers in the country who can sacrifice for the cause of democracy, who can sacrifice for the cause of the people. It has been our tradition from Gandhiji, C. R. Das and Motilal Nehru. Many in the profession have sacrificed for that. In that situation, it will be for the democratic organs, the sovereign Parliament and State legislatures, to prepare the panels from which they should be nominated. For that articles 124 and 217 should be amended.

Then the question arises: who should test the constitutional validity of any law enacted by Parliament? I do seriously propose that Judges should not be allowed to do that. (Interruptions) Please hear me. We are discussing it. I speak out. I will also hear you. Take it seriously. Because we are serious; we do not want a violent overthrow, either fascist or any other; we want our democratic structure to give solutions to our problems in a peaceful manner. That is why I am seriously proposing things which will allow our democracy to function and advance in consonance with our needs and requirements not only of today, but of tomorrow and the day after too.

In such a situation, because the legislatures are there to interpret the law, the judiciary should be there to see that the laws are enforced and not violated by the executive, not that Parliament should not enact law. For testing the validity of laws, there should be a Constitution Committee elected by Parliament. (Laughter) Nominated members may laugh at it, but people who are elected, do seriously demand it. There should be a Constitution Committee elected by Parliament in which non-MPs may also be members. It should be a statutory Committee. (Interruptions) Many people who have said it long ago, have gone and in their place you have come. I say it today.

tomorrow someone else will come. But history will march on, India will march on and democracy will proceed.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Is it the idea of the hon. Member to abolish the judiciary altogether?

SHRI Bhogendra Jha: No. I want to give it dignity and prestige.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: To Daga?

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: To the judiciary. That is beyond me, to give prestige to him. I am talking of the judiciary. There should be a statutory Constitution Committee, for which there should be provision in the Constitution, which can decide on the constitutional validity of any law enacted by Parliament.

One more thing Justice should be made cheaper, because today you have fabulous fees over which there is no control, no limitation, in our country. It may be hundreds or thousands or hundreds of thousands. This is sale of justice, this is sale of legal talent which is insulting to the legal profession itself. It is high time we put a limit on it, a bar on its excess. Under capitalism, we cannot totally abolish it. But we must limit it. That is my submission. We have respected the judiciary when they said that the privy purses must be maintained and Parliament had no right to alter it, again when they said that the bank owners must keep the money of the depositors, of millions of people. Then Parliament was dissolved and we went to the people. You can imagine the situation. Suppose there is an attack on our country and the Army marches and someone goes under article 31(C) to the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court gives a stay order that the Army will not march pending the final disposal of the case. Any thing can be taken there.... (Interruptions).

SHRI M. C. DAGA: If the Army marches, can a stay order be issued? (Interruptions). We want to understand, the hon. Member is giving very noble ideas.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): It shows that there is no dearth of lunatics in the country.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: For two years in Punjab and Haryana, the High Courts stayed the operation of land ceiling laws which gave opportunity to millions of people. Strugglers wanted their fundamental rights from the Supreme Court and they were released. There is a country called India and there are 600 million people and they have also to get their fundamental rights. We can impeach the President, the impeachment of judges also should be provided for in our Constitution.

SHRI JAGANNATHA RAO (Chattrapur): It is there.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: It should be specified to certain cases.

With regard to the other services, legislative and executive, I want to say this. Our bureaucracy, executive, needs to be democratized. The democratically elected representatives are in need of being made more accountable to the people and to the tasks that they are performing, that they are supposed to perform. Now when they go to the people they say: I have asked questions in parliament, I have spoken in Parliament but I cannot implement the scheme. When people go to the bureaucrats, officers they say: what can we do, whatever we are asked to implement, we are implementing. People run hither and thither. They do not know who is accountable for this under our democratic system. You can abuse the Minister or the Prime Minister individually. The elected representatives should be made more accountable and more responsible with

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regard to performance, with regard to implementation of the schemes and enactments. For the purpose of execution of schemes the constituencies of the Lok Sabha and the legislative assemblies should be turned into administrative units. There is no reason to maintain the subdivisions and taluks as in the British days. There will be people's committees in each administrative unit over which the elected MP will preside, the panchayat heads, members of legislative assemblies etc. will be there. The development officer will be the secretary of that committee. That committee should be responsible for the execution of schemes and that should be provided for in the constitution. There should be a standing committee for each ministry consisting of members of parliament and that should see through the implementation of the schemes and policies enunciated at the ministerial level. That way our democracy would be more meaningful in the present context of things. Every production unit—factory or mine—should have committees to ensure its proper functioning so that those who produce can feel elated that they are producing things in their factory or production unit.

We have violated the solemn principles contained in the directive principles and the whole country's march has been stopped. These directive principles are fundamental in the governance of the country, but has any government—Central or State—taken note of it? It says

The State shall in particular direct its policy towards securing—

"that the citizens men and women equally have the right to an adequate means of livelihood"

Have we been able to guarantee even the minimum means of livelihood? Have we not violated this? Then it says

"that the operation of the economic system does not result in con-

centration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment"

But here monopolies have arisen. There is concentration of wealth on the one side and poverty on the other. Then it says

"The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development make effective provision for securing the right to work to education"

This also has been violated. About education it says

The State shall endeavour to provide within a period of ten years from the commencement of this Constitution for free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years'

We have totally violated all these provisions up till now. We should feel ashamed if anyone were to say that the Constitution should not be amended to make these directive principles enforceable. These can be enforced but for that economic chapter and other chapters of the Constitution will have to be changed, the directive principles should not be allowed to remain a scrap of paper but should be enforced. The Constitution should also provide for annual review by Parliament and the State Legislatures of the implementation of the various provisions of the directive principles. There should be a mandatory provision for this.

Articles 31C, 32 and 226 should be suitably amended so that the vested interests are not in a position to misuse these provisions against the democratic urges of the people. In article 311(2)(c) it is stated—

"in the interest of the security of the State." The words "in the interest of eradication of corruption and prevention of economic offences should also be added and they should not be allowed to go to the

judiciary. The judiciary should not be allowed to interfere in these cases. For that there should be a committee to review these things. There may be an ex-Judge in that Committee who can review whether any injustice has been done. An employee representative should also be there. And they should not be allowed to go to the courts.

The time has come to make the elections cheaper. Why cannot it be mandatory that no candidate in a Lok Sabha election be allowed to have more than two jeeps? And that jeep can be provided by the State. (Interruptions) Otherwise you will have to go for black-money. This is a shame on our democracy, shame on our electoral system. Why cannot we provide that the State will provide jeeps? None will be loser. (Interruptions) In the situation the election should be made cheaper.

The anti-defection Bill is pending in the Committee for many years. The ruling party is not clearing this Bill because of its own benefit. I hope the new Chairman will pay much more attention and will bring that Bill before the Parliament.

17 hrs

SHRI B V NAIK (Kanara) Sir, sometimes, I have a feeling that we are taking in the air. After the 25th amendment for which at this moment we must remember late Mr Mohan Kumaramangalam I feel virtually the property right is only a paper tiger in our Constitution and it has no teeth. (Interruptions)

MR CHAIRMAN Mr Bhattacharyya, why are you interrupting every speaker?

SHRI B V NAIK De jure we have the property rights. De facto none at all, as mentioned rightly by Mr Frank Anthony, I think this is an exercise in futility, trying to flog

a dead horse. The right to property, in fact, does not exist in our Constitution. I have answered Mr Bhogendra Jha. He must have participated in the discussion on the amendment, and unless he was suffering from some acute form of amnesia he would have remembered what exactly he had said then. (Interruptions) If you could kindly bear with me there is no definition clause in our Constitution. I cannot talk like a great architect, Mr Unnikrishnan had talked of the whole social structure, of the political history of this country, and about the foundation of our Constitution. I cannot talk like that. I may be able to talk, not like an architect, not even like an engineer, but I may be able to talk like a mechanic. I have been an ex-bureaucrat. I have not been an agitator all my life and I am proud of it. I have been a civil servant and I have been a disciplined man, not an agitator. I have been very disciplined for 20 years. I have become an agitator after coming here. Sir, after all property can be defined in clear cut precise, economic terms. Property can exist in the form of land and capital. After all, capital is the tool of production. You may call capital as money. Property can also exist in the form of labour when it is taken as a commodity. Under the system of bonded labour in this country, labour was treated as the property which belonged to the master or the slave-driver. It was a property at that time. There can be a passive property and an active property or an aggressive property, i.e., something which is exploitative. Our friends who are money lenders like a Mul-tani seth would make an amount of say Rs 100 into Rs 200 within two months. That is a property which is aggressive. If I have Rs 100 and if I deposit it into the bank for constructive purposes it is a passive property. It is not an exploitative property, so we are against that particular brand of property, the unorganized and exploitative one. And in this context, to go wholesale, hammer

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and tongs against all the property in this country would be an exercise—it is futility, of course—would not be a wise step. Our dear friend Mr Unnikrishnan—he has drafted the entire Resolution with a considerable amount of care and caution—comes very near to the point of amendment of the property rights. He says

The House therefore urges the Government of India to initiate constitutional amendments particularly in the nature of property rights "

Why is he beating about the bush? Why does he not if he believes in it, say clearly that he wants the abolition of property rights (Interruptions) and its removal off the chapter on Fundamental Rights? He does not say so, because he does not believe in it (Interruptions)

SHRI K P UNNIKRIISHNAN The hon Member had not listened to me

SHRI B V NAIK I had listened to every word of his. I can reproduce his speech to him, outside in the Lobby. The question today is not property per se but it is a question of property—property for what? The mere size of the property makes it sometimes attain a position of dominance and exploitation. I think that the abolition of property as a whole would be an extremely unwise step in society like ours (Interruptions). The elite of Kerala comes here and gives us a lecture on property. Who has drafted this constitution? Who could have drafted it much better than a person who belonged to one of the most depressed classes in this country namely Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar? Did he not have compassion for the poor people? He enshrined it in the Constitution. Was he out of his mind at the time when he drafted the Constitution from A to Z? So I do not think there can be greater people in this country with a greater amount of compensation for the poor and the

down trodden, the depressed and the backward, than Mr B R Ambedkar.

So, what we want is a non-acquisitive society, not an acquisitive society. Now we are encroaching on the time of the resolution of our revered elderly member, Shri H N Mukherjee. So, we should be brief. Under these circumstances, I would go, as far as saying that we should have a limitation on property. Let it be in consonance with our present policy. Let not a few people have more and more, and continue to have more and more, and more and more people continue to have less and less. We want a socialist order and a non-acquisitive society.

Now I come to the other operative part. I will say a word and conclude. We could go on but then there is the question of other speakers. Ours is a federal structure. My hon friend seems to have completely forgotten it. As I stated yesterday, a federal structure is most important for administering a welfare state especially, a future socialist state. But our federal Constitution as it is suffers from certain handicaps. It suffers from the handicap of having to stand on the crutches of linguistic States. I think this handicap has got to be removed. The polio patient has to be made strong and his legs have got to be made firm. In this direction we need a strong Central leadership, a symbolic leadership, a strong Centre vis-à-vis the States.

Subject to the condition that the hon Mover of the Resolution not withdraws his resolution but *suo motu* is able to suggest certain amendments in regard to property rights, we can agree to this because the rest of the things are excellent. Anyway, it is a very good intellectual exercise and an effort on the part of the mover.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY (Nominated—Anglo-Indians) Mr Chairman, Sir, as the Mover of the Resolution

has been pleased to point out, this is a very important Resolution, and it is a little unfortunate that more members of the House are not here to listen to our speeches, however much they may lack in depth, because in ten or fifteen minutes we cannot import any depth to a speech. I notice that the press is even less interested in this subject, than the members of the House.

So far as the Resolution is concerned, it is well drafted. But it is so compendious that it can be all things to all people, people of all parties, people of all political complexions. For instance, I would certainly go along with this Resolution if it postulates significant and necessary changes. But it is so sweeping that it can include changes which will distort the whole basic character of our Constitution and undo it and even efface the rule of law.

Even when my friend, Shri Nath Pai, was here I was always among those who supported the concept that Parliament in its constituent capacity has certainly the right to amend the Constitution. I have always felt that an immutable Constitution carries with it the germs of its own destruction.

So far as property rights are concerned, I have never had any qualms about it. As my friend has pointed out, it is like flogging a dead horse, because, now that compensation is not justiciable, I do not know what property rights exist in substance. I think the Mover pointed out that Chief Justice Hidayatulla, as he then was, said that it seemed to be an anomaly that property should have been included in fundamental rights. Speaking for myself, I think we can take it out because it gives a handle to people to attack all and sundry. I would not be sorry if property rights were to be limited.

In the short time at my disposal, I want to underline certain basic features of the Constitution. It is impor-

tant, and I wish more Members were here, to remember what kind of a democracy we have. It is not an alleged socialist democracy, it is not a communist democracy which is a contradiction in terms, it is not a capitalist democracy, it is a constitutional democracy. Do not let us forget that. And because it is a constitutional democracy, advisedly that the galaxy of Constitution founders—I had the privilege of being among them—provided that the Constitution will be the final touch-stone of the validity of legislative and executive action.

What is the fundamental feature of our constitutional democracy? It is the separation of the legislative, executive and judicial powers. Let us remember that, I do not want to offend anybody, but it has become a populist slogan that we must entrench or underline the supremacy or sovereignty of Parliament. The supremacy or sovereignty of Parliament, however, finds no place in our constitutional democracy. The legislature, the executive and the judiciary are all creatures of our Constitution, let us realise that.

Justice V. S. Deshpande, one of the Judges of the Delhi High Court, has written a very instructive book, "Judicial Review of Legislation" which I would recommend to my friends to read. He has put it very correctly. He says these are the three organs, the legislature, the executive and the judiciary; they are co-ordinate organs of State, and they are all bound by the Constitution. That is the constitutional democracy that we have given ourselves. There is no use invoking the position in Britain because they have no written constitution.

Ministers like my friend there representing the executive, you and I representing the legislature, and the judges—why are we all required to

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take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution? It is in clear acknowledgement of the supremacy of the Constitution, the fact that ours is a constitutional democracy. You can efface the Constitution, but we cannot talk in terms of retaining a constitutional democracy and at the same time talk of effacing the basic features of the Constitution. Deliberately the framers of the Constitution carved out a chapter on fundamental rights. As the name itself implies, they were intended to be fundamental.

Now my friends are suggesting, and it has become a sort of populist slogan, that some kind of a committee be appointed by Parliament, and that committee will determine the vires of legislation. This is an extraordinary proposition. Why did the framers of the Constitution evolve checks and balances? One of the reasons is that we have an ultra pluralistic society, we have a mosaic of linguistic, religious and other minorities. I will come to that in a minute. And that is why deliberately they have remitted to the judiciary its own carefully assigned functions.

I would like to deal primarily with the fundamental rights of minorities vis-a-vis judicial review. My friends are saying let there be no judicial review. That means that all the fundamental rights of the minorities in this country, their educational, religious, cultural rights will be placed at the mercy of a permanent majority in the legislature.

I am going to tell this to my friends here. I have got a little more practical experience of what has happened and what is likely to happen. In a legislature, the ruling party passes a resolution; it will appoint a committee and that committee is expected to say that the legislation passed by the ruling party is bad. It is a proposition which has only to be

stated to be repelled. Mr. Gokhale has said—I do not know whether he has changed his view; he has written a very eloquent preface to the Constitution of ours—that the Constitution has served us very well. And it has. It needs necessary amendments. I have no objection to that. But it has projected this basic feature of checks and balances.

Let me say this without any qualification and, I hope, every member of the minorities will agree with me, that the greatest check and balance vis-a-vis a minority and its fundamental right is in the nature of judicial review. That is why the framers of the Constitution have put it in the Constitution. I pleaded for the rights of minorities with a certain amount of passion because I knew what would happen. I do not know whether we will produce those people, that kind of a galaxy of giants, in future. They realised that unless the minorities in this country were protected by having their fundamental rights subject to judicial review, the minorities would be remitted to permanent—I underline the word "permanent"—helo-try—political, economic, religious and cultural. That is why this is the greatest check and balance for the minorities so far as judicial review is concerned.

I give you a certain examples of cases. My friend, Asok Sen, is there. We argued the Kerala Christian College case. He was very busy. He left it to me to argue the case. That was one of the cases. I have been for over 30 years closely associated with education and it is a passion of mine. Probably, I have a certain sort of a distorted view of this matter. For over 30 years I have been closely associated with education, with Anglo-Indian and Christian schools. Since 1954, I have appeared in the Supreme Court in every case, practically dealing with article 30. Article 30 postulates the right of a minority based on language or religion to establish an

educational institution of its choice. There was that first case, the Bombay Education Society case in 1954, the Anglo-Indian schools case. I do not want to say anything that might hurt anyone. But Mr. Morarji Desai was then the Chief Minister—he may not have intended it—but the diktat went out that only Anglo-Indians whose mother tongue admittedly was English may be taught in the medium of English. If the legislature had the right to test the vires, obviously, they would have ratified that. What would have been the result? Not only the Anglo-Indian but also English-medium schools and colleges would have faced extinction. Would that have helped the country?

You may not agree with me publicly but privately you will agree with me that these institutions are among the few real national educational institutions because they transcend the barriers of region, language and not least regional chauvinism. But if it was left to the Bombay Legislature, they would have affirmed the death sentence on all English-medium schools and colleges.

Again, in 1958, I argued for the Anglo-Indian schools in Kerala. There was a Government with a particular ideology there. I think it is still a dominant ideology. They sought to strangle the Anglo-Indian and Christian schools. Once again, we had to get it struck down through the Supreme Court, not through the legislature. That would not have been possible. It is a contradiction in terms to say, if the legislature has passed a legislation, it will say that that legislation is bad.

In 1970—this is a case I was referring to—My hon. friend, Mr. Asok sen was there with me and, once again the same Government, the Kerala Government, sought to garrote the Christian colleges. Once again, the Supreme Court interpreting article 30 came to the rescue....

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: I want to simply say, please do not equate trading in education with the right of Christian community for whom I have got great respect.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: This is not only limited to the conventional minority. I am not pleading for Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, Parsis and other minorities. It affects everybody. I was one of the Counsel and Mr Asok Sen was also there for the D.A.V. Arya Samaj colleges. We argued and argued successfully because the test of minority is *vis-a-vis* their position in the State. So, the Supreme Court said, 'yes, *vis-a-vis* the Sikhs the Hindus are a minority and, therefore, the Arya Samaj accepting that they are part of the Hindus, are also a minority entitled to the protection of Art. 30' and therefore, the attempt of the Guru Nanak University authorities to interfere with the Arya Samaj colleges was struck down.

Very recently, we had the Gujarat University case and I appeared for one of the St. Xavier colleges. Now, what would have happened? Let me give an example of what would have happened in the Delhi School Education Act. This Parliament passed the Delhi School Education Act; let me give you the inside story—and Prof. Nurul Hasan and Shri H. K. L. Bhagat will bear out what I am going to say. I fought in the Select Committee alone. I was completely isolated; not a single member of any minority was prepared to support me. I don't know what was the reason—perhaps because he was a member of the ruling party. I took out the law and explained to them; it was clear as daylight. But I was isolated and my pleas were unanimously and summarily rejected. I went home and they thought I had walked out. Prof. Nurul Hasan had asked me to Dinner. I never walk out; I don't do what some people do; I stay in and fight. The reason why I went then was that with my Dinner I have a

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couple of chota whiskies and Prof. Hasan was not giving us any chota whisky! When I came back I found they had reversed their decision and said 'we will accept Mr. Anthony's plea'. I was amazed. Then, when I was taking Mr. Bhagat home, he told me what had happened. He said 'I am a lawyer and I told them that we can easily over-rule Mr. Anthony and we can pass this in the House, but he is a lawyer and he knows something about the minority rights; he will go to the Court and the whole measure will be struck down'. It was my right to go to the Court for judicial review of the Fundamental Rights and that persuaded all those members to put in a separate chapter for minority rights.

Now, I am coming to one of my last points. I don't understand. I hope my friend the Law Minister, will not abjure, with all his professional training and experience and the eloquent preface he has written to the Constitution, that judicial review is not only the paramount function but it is the paramount duty of the Judiciary. That is the paramount duty of the Judiciary except that what has Patanjali Shastri, the then Chief Justice of India, said in the B.G. Rao case? I will read it because it summarises what a great Chief Justice felt in the matter. This is p. 199, para 13—1952 S.C.

"Before proceeding to consider this question, we think it right to point out, what is sometimes overlooked, that our Constitution contains express provision for judicial review of legislation as to its conformity with the Constitution, unlike in American where the Supreme Court has assumed extensive powers of reviewing legislative acts under cover of the widely interpreted "due process" clause in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments. If, then, the Courts in this country face up

to such important and none-too easy task, it is not out of any desire to tilt at legislative authority in a crusader's spirit, but in discharge of a duty plainly laid upon them by the Constitution. This is especially true as regards the "fundamental rights", as to which this Court has been assigned the role of a sentinel on the "qui vive". While the Court naturally attaches great weight to the legislative judgment, it cannot desert its own duty to determine finally the constitutionality of an impugned statute. We have ventured on these obvious remarks because it appears to have been suggested in some quarters that the Courts in the new set up are out to seek clashes with the legislatures in the country."

That sets it out. The judges are only discharging a duty placed on them and they have taken an oath to discharge that duty—unless, as I said, we are prepared to distort or to destroy our Constitution. And remember this—what was one of the most obvious reasons why the Courts have been assigned this duty of judicial review. Both the Supreme Court and High Court Judges are persons of professional training, experience and knowledge

The interpretation of the Constitution, it is their job. Are our politicians going to interpret the Constitution? When Mr. Sen and I appear to argue they would not even know what we are talking about. Remember this. The judges interpret the Constitution, not according to any political predilections but according to their oath; they look at the plain meaning and they say that it is this. That is their duty. Let me say this also. One of the most important reasons why they have been assigned this duty is because by training and experience, they are objective and evenhanded; they are not influenced by considerations—I am saying this generally about our judges, whether they are Hindus or Muslims or anybody else—of religion, community

and caste. But the politicians are the anti-thesis of this. I say it again without qualification. An average politician is a creature, in this country, of political, religious, caste and communal considerations....

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: No. It is not correct. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: He says 'no'. I know a little more than what my friend does. I do not have to shout to underline what I know. Ask my friend to analyse the figures and in his quieter moments, he will, privately admit it. Everywhere, in every Party—not in the urban seats—people are selected because of their community and, worse, because of their sub-caste label...

SHRI DARBARA SINGH (Hoshiarpur): It is altogether wrong.

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: Let us be honest. They all compete putting people who are likely to get the vote of the dominant caste or sub-caste. Let us be honest in this matter. People, in this country, are returned to Legislatures because they are creatures of this particular aspect of our political life. To ask Members of Parliament to arrogate to themselves judicial functions would mean immediately to spell out death not only for the minorities but to spell out death for the citizens. I remember, when Dr. Dhillon was in the Chair, I raised this question....

श्री विभूति बिष्य (मोतीहारी) : यह जो आप कहने हैं, इसमें माइनारिटी का सवाल कहाँ आता है? सवाल तो यह है कि कांस्टीट्यूशन को आज जैसी हालत देश की है उसको देखते हुए तरमीम किया जाए। यह जो कहने हैं, इन्हीं के जैसे आदमी थे जो 1947 में 15 अगस्त की 12 बजे रात तक विश्वास नहीं करने थे कि हिन्दुस्तान में अंग्रेज चले जाएंगे। देखिए जान यह है कि जाकी रही आबना जैसी, प्रभु मूरत देखो तिन तैसी। चूँकि

इनके दिमाग की बनावट कम्यूनल है इसलिए सभी को यह कम्यूनल समझते हैं। हम लोगों ने फ्रीडम के लिए फाइट किया तो कोई कम्यूनल बात के लिए नहीं किया।

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: I will accept my friend's assertions at their face value. Whether I believe them or not is a different matter.

श्री विभूति बिष्य : आप यह जो कहते हैं कि कम्यूनल फ्रेम में सब आते हैं तो चूँकि आप हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी की लड़ाई में भाग नहीं लिए थे, आप को पता नहीं अंग्रेजों की बजह से देश का पार्टीशन हुआ। उस समय जो कांस्टीट्यूट असेम्बली बनाई गई, उस वक्त जैसे हालात थे उनको देखते हुए उस कांस्टीट्यूट असेम्बली में इस तरह का कांस्टीट्यूशन बना। आप वकील हैं, उसकी बुनियाद पर जिन्दा रहना चाहते हैं।

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY: Mere assertions of secularism would not convince me. Probably I am a greater secularist than my friend could ever attempt to be, because, I am a member of minority, a minority cannot afford to be communal, he gets nothing if he lives in a pocket, by living in a small pocket, he gets nothing; but the majority member, by parading his majority, communalism and masquerading as nationalism can always be in a position of permanent authority.

श्री विभूति बिष्य : मेरे यहाँ बोड़े से क्रिश्चियन है, एक हजार दो हजार होंगे आप चल कर पूछिए उन क्रिश्चियन से कि उनके ऊपर हम लोगों की तरफ से कोई ज्यादाती हुई? यह बलन बात कहने हैं। हमारे यहाँ बैतिया में और

[श्री विप्लव सिन्हा]

दूसरी जगहों में जो किसानों हैं हम सब लोग उन के साथ भाई-भाई की तरह रहते हैं।

SHRI FRANK ANTHONY I am sorry I am not able to make myself understood to my friend

I was saying that the Delhi Education Act was going, deliberately, to be passed in the teeth of all Supreme Court's decisions and but for my friend Mr H K L. Bhagat saying that it would be struck down, it would have been passed. Was it not an expression of the fact that you were prepared to overrun minority rights in the face of the most explicit Supreme Court's decisions?

And if the Supreme Court is not there to stand between the minorities and death, who will do that? My friend does not know, what I am talking about

The question of judicial review is very crucial apart from the minority rights. It is a question of life and death for us. Take for example the question of executive action. Judicial review is a crucial psychological factor. We have got this pluralistic society of ours. If the executive action was not to be subjected to judicial review, what would happen? What is the good of this cliché mongering and this self-adulation and hypocrisy? Don't I know? I do not want to say anything that will hurt any political party, but don't I know, what happens? I did a lot of constitutional cases, when one political party, not the present one, was running the Corporation. It was a cesspool of corruption. People were promoted only because a political party was putting them up. I went to the court and got that struck down over and over again, but the same political party was practising nepotism. People were demoted mala fide and people were promoted because of political favouritism. And they, the Political Parties, are going to decide the validity of Chairman's act

As I said, judges at least are conditioned in a different atmosphere.

I say this without qualification that there can be no constitutional democracy without judicial review. This is a basic concept. There is no constitution left without judicial review. I say this not for the minorities, without judicial review in the matter of fundamental rights, it will be a question of not life but death. Without judicial review, it would be just death.

SHRI H N MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North East) Mr Chairman, Sir, I am not proposing to speak on this Resolution. I have introduced the next Resolution. I feel the House perhaps has given an extension of time to this Resolution. Therefore, as it is, under Rule 9A of the Directions by Speaker, my Resolution ought to be protected. Rule 9A takes care of this but I want to be doubly sure that my Resolution will continue to be there.

सभापति महोदय प्रो० माहव, आपका खयाल बिल्कुल सही है। आपका यह रजान्यूनन अगर आज नहीं भी आता है तो यह आईदा डेट पर डिसकस होगा, नैप्स नहीं होगा।

SHRI H N MUKERJEE Under Rule 9A of the Directions by Speaker, my Resolution will continue to have its priority in the next Resolution Day

MR CHAIRMAN Yes

SHRI K P UNNIKRIISHNAN I beg to move

"That this House do extend the time allotted to the Resolution moved by me regarding Changes in Constitution by two hours".

MR CHAIRMAN The question is:

"That this House do extend the time allotted to the Resolution moved by Shri K P Unnikrishnan regarding Changes in Constitution by two hours".

The motion was adopted.

समाप्ति बहोदय : इस समय जो मेरे सामने लिस्ट है उसमें हमारे बुजुर्ग प्रो० सूर्य नारायण का नम्बर है लेकिन अशोक सेन साहब की चिट्ठी आई है कि वे आज ही बोलना चाहते हैं। अगर आप परमिट करें तो मैं अशोक सेन साहब के लिए कहूँ।

SHRI A. K. SEN (Calcutta—North-West): I am very much obliged for the indulgence extended to me by allowing me to speak on this Resolution. It is very apposite, it is very topical and I think it focusses a very vital problem facing us to-day.

It is true that the Constitution has served us well. It is also equally true that there have been many facets which have been exposed and which need treatment for the purpose of facilitating the progress of our country the achieving of the Directive Principles which the Constitution had set for itself in Part IV of the Constitution as also for realising the paramount objective of giving a full life, a purposeful life to every citizen. It is certainly a truism to repeat once more that every citizen cannot declare that he has achieved that share of the new national wealth which was his due that he has achieved that purposeful life which certainly he was entitled to under the Constitution. It is certainly equally true that he cannot say that he has reached that stage of existence which has rid him of poverty for all times to come. So many things are yet to happen, so many steps are yet to be taken and so much is yet to be achieved that it is not really a heresy to say that we should have a fresh look at the workings of our Constitution.

I am deeply wedded to our Constitution. I am very proud of it. At the same time, I cannot be oblivious of the fact that it cannot be called a perfect instrument. No instrument of human making can be a perfect instrument. Nor can an instrument serve people for whom it is designed for all times to come with equal efficacy. Further

all life which goes on from decade to decade, from age to age brings in its wake so many problems to the forefront, so many complications of life and our national existence are thrown up everyday and it is only a very bold person who can claim that an instrument made to-day would last for ever. Even the laws of the Medes and Persians had to change. It is said that they never change, but they did change. So, if the laws of the Medes and Persians did change, our Constitution changes, would not be a very shameful thing. But the question is to think very carefully, to design and desire very carefully, and with all the prudence that we possess, those changes which we think should be necessary to serve our national life and to achieve better and quicker the objectives which we have accepted for ourselves. It is not possible to give an *ad hoc* solutions and the Prime Minister rightly has stressed this fact repeatedly that it needs study and discussion, a study at all levels and particularly by experts.

I am not one who thinks that every ill from which our nation suffers to-day is to be traced to our Constitution. It is a very facile way, to blame someone or some organization or some organ of the government for all the ills that visit us from time to time. I think for all the ills everybody is equally responsible and to say that somebody or as some people sought to put it that the Judges are responsible or that the Members of Parliament are responsible or the governmental machinery is responsible is again a very facile way of answering a question.

When all the organs work together and certain deficiencies come to light, it will be very difficult to say that only one organ is responsible. But, to the credit of our Judiciary, it must be said that by and large, they have served us well. Outside the country they have achieved a reputation, but like all organs of government, there have been deficiencies. There are good judges, bad judges and there are ordinary judges and brilliant judges. As I said,

[Shri A. K. Sen]

the same thing can be said of our administrators. Same thing can be said of our Members of Parliament and also Members of legislatures. One thing should not be forgotten and that is inherent in every written Constitution, that there must be some organ to interpret the Constitution, to interpret our law. Take a very simple case. My learned friend, Mr. Frank Anthony has spoken of minorities. He feels very strongly about it. But even if everybody does not feel in such a fashion about the minority rights, yet, it is such a glorious chapter of our Constitution. It underlined, as one great Chief Justice had said deciding on the Kerala Education Bill which the Government of that day led by our late Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru sent to the Supreme Court for its opinion, that our Constitution glorifies that national objective of ours which regards our civilization as a composite product of all these streams that have come into this country and the translation of our national anthem was put in for the purpose of underlining this fact that our nation is not the product of one or two or three groups or categories of civilizations, but it is a composite amalgam of all the streams which have flown into this country through all the ages and which have enriched together, what we call the Indian civilization. It is, therefore, to protect that composite amalgam that minority rights had been given such a great importance in our Constitution.

The Kerala Government of that day was the United C.P.I. Government. I think one of our present judges of the Supreme Court was then the Law Minister of Kerala—Mr. Krishna Iyer. I was then the Law Minister myself in the Central Government. I had to deal with the vires of the Act—Kerala Education Act—which according to the minorities was designed entirely to crush the Catholic Institutions so that they would be denied the contributions and donations which alone could sustain educational institutions. In a great judgement which will remain a *magna carta* for all minority rights of

our country, the Supreme Court had said that the Government of Kerala could not appropriate to themselves the right to dictate minority institutions or to run their education; to say that either you take my money or you do not, but if you take my money, you must run it according to my dictates would be really striking at the very roots of the Constitution and the guarantee of the minority rights. Who would have decided that? As I said, it is inherent. In any written Constitution, the dictates of the Constitution have to be obeyed by the legislatures, by the judiciary and by the other organs of Government. If they do not, who is to decide the contravention? If you do not have the judges, you must have someone else equally respectable and equally capable of commanding the confidence of the people. For instance, by convention in England the highest judiciary is the House of Lords. The First Committee of the House of Lords decides everything. It is a part of the legislature, like a Committee of our House and yet nobody ever had thought that that First Committee of the House of Lords decides in any way different from the highest judicial traditions. It never decides in favour of the Government of the day. It always decides impartially and upholding the highest traditions of all judicial organs. If we can set up such an organ, we can certainly do it, there is no harm. But it is inherent in a written Constitution that there must be somebody to decide whether the State Legislatures have conformed to the Constitution, whether other organs of the Government have conformed to the Constitution or whether the Parliament itself has contravened the Constitution.

Take a very simple case. Supposing the Parliament to-morrow tries to levy Sales Tax for the State and it is challenged. Who is to decide? Sales Tax authority is exclusively assigned to the States. Suppose, to-morrow, Parliament passes a law imposing barrier in trade between States or taxing differently different products as it enters

different areas contravening the prescriptions of Part XII of the Constitution which guarantees Freedom of Trade all over the country, which prohibits discriminatory taxes being levied by different States against products coming from other States. For instance, suppose to-morrow, Punjab levies discriminatory taxes against products coming from U.P. or vice versa.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA:
From one State to any other State. . .

SHRI A. K. SEN: But supposing such a law is passed by the U.P. legislature or the Punjab legislature, who will decide the validity of such a law?

It is not a question of doing away with judicial review but to put judicial review in the proper context and define the scope of judicial review. For instance, I personally believe myself that civil servants get much better justice in France than in England with their administrative tribunals. In England by the writs they can hardly give justice. They can only confine the Governments to the so-called limits of jurisdiction. It is the same in our country, but if we had administrative tribunals dealing with the problems of the civil servants it would have done away with lot of inconvenience caused due to constant judicial interference in matters where they cannot give justice and yet they can cause lot of friction and lot of inconvenience for the government. These are the areas which have to be explored for the purpose of finding out what should be the limit of judicial review. If judicial review in its widest scense has done any inconvenience or has put any restrictions in the way of our progress it has to be found where it has done so, and then curbed. Therefore, the extreme proposition which is sometimes canvassed very forcefully that there should never be any curb on judicial review would be a fallacious thing. The curbs must be there. If it is found that judicial review untrammelled is going to cause obstruction to the way of our progress, to say, do away with

judicial review altogether, would be equally fallacious and it would be destructive of our very federal structure. Who will decide the disputes between the States and the Centre. We had so many disputes when different Governments were set up in the various States. I gave the example that if the Kerala Education Act was sent to a committee of this House to decide whether it was correct or not, and if the House decides as the Supreme Court did, that that Act was bad, many of the provisions contravene the various Articles of Part III of our Constitution, that decision of our House would not have been accepted by....

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: It was the Leader of the House. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the political leadership of the country, that sent that Act to the Supreme Court.

SHRI A. K. SEN: If he did, he was a great leader respected universally in our country and whether it is he who decided it or Pandit Gobind Ballabh Pant, who is one of the greatest parliamentarians that we have known in this House, who was the Home Minister then, all the same, the Kerala Government led by Mr. Namboodripad would not have accepted it and it is quite clear. But once the Supreme decided that many of those provisions contravene Article 30 of the Constitution, it had to be accepted. Now, this is the reason why we have the system of judicial review in a federal structure where the organs of the government are defined and their jurisdiction and fields are well-demarcated or transcended. Who is to see that they are set right?

Therefore, my submission is this, I feel and this is possibly shared by Basu, that whereas the Constitution does require fresh look, exploration about those areas where it has shown faulty working, exploration of the area of judicial review for the purpose of defining the proper limits of judicial review and at the same time ensuring that,

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the work of different organs of the Government and the different constituent units and the different States work within their limits, and none collides with the others, at the same time, there is to be a proper, smooth and harmonious functioning of the different elements in the Government and there should be no conflict between the judges and our Parliamentary or Executive authority.

The expression of Paramouncy of Parliament has to be understood in the proper context. Again, wherever we have written Constitution, Parliament is never paramount in the sense that British Parliament is. When we say that we shall pass a Money Bill, then we must follow the provisions of how to pass a Money Bill; we cannot contravene the provisions of the Constitution itself on how a Money Bill is to be introduced. But, the British Parliament could—they could pass a resolution saying that this is how we shall pass the Money Bill.

This is why in a written Constitution, the expression parliamentary supremacy has to be understood in a proper context. It must mean that Parliament and the different State Legislatures must be armed with all the powers for the purpose of achieving what Part IV of the Constitution has set for them.

That is the decisive step. But, at the same time, to see that within the framework of the Constitution there must be somebody to watch and to ensure that none transcends the limits. That is the problem. I think this will be studied properly and Shri Unnikrishnan deserves all the congratulations for bringing in this Resolution so

that this Parliament—for the first time, we have been debating this here and even outside Parliament—has a chance of expressing itself and a proper discussion and a proper exploration follows for the purpose of enabling us to take proper decisions in relation to the future set up and framework of our Constitution. Mr. Gokhale is here and I again appeal to him that this must be done dispassionately, objectively and without passion and without any predilections. We have only this desire to see that this Constitution becomes a live frame for achieving the great objective which our Constitution has set to us.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): Mr. Chairman, Sir, after hearing the eminent lawyers and young people like Shri Unnikrishnan and a person like Sardar Darbara Singh at this late hour, it seems that we are all in favour of a change in our Constitution for the sake of the people—not for the sake of any individual or minority community—and for the development of this country and to safeguard the interests of the minority community. This Resolution speaks about the need for amendments to the Constitution. In the very first sentence it says that there is no objection to this and the entire country also needs that after 20 or 25 years of Independence on the basis of the experience that we have had in this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may continue on the next day. Now, the House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. on the 22nd March, 1976.

17.59 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 22, 1976 (Chaitra 2, 1898 (Saka)).